

Karamanlis quits presidential race

ATHENS (AP) — President Constantine Karamanlis, Greece's respected elder statesman, announced Saturday he will not run for reelection as head of state in next week's presidential vote. The 77-year-old conservative politician said he never sought a second five-year term as president and accused Socialist Premier Andreas Papandreu of political betrayal. "I did not ask to be re-elected. The leader of Pasok told me my election was essential for national unity," Mr. Karamanlis' statement said in an unexpected decision, the ruling Pan-Hellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok) decided Saturday to back a left-wing Supreme court judge in next Friday's election instead of Mr. Karamanlis. Analysts here said the surprise choice of Christos Sartzetakis as Pasok's presidential candidate could plunge Greece in a political turmoil.

Earlier story on page 5

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Arab Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الراي"

Egyptian premier to visit Romania

CAIRO (AP) — Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali said Saturday he will make an official visit to Romania on March 20 for talks on Middle East peace efforts and bilateral relations. The visit will come a few days after President Hosni Mubarak's return from visits to the United States, Britain, France and Italy, where he is to discuss Middle East peace talks. Mr. Mubarak arrived Saturday in the United States, the second leg of his journey. In Cairo, Mr. Ali told reporters he will deliver to Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu a message from Mr. Mubarak "about the efforts Egypt is making to achieve a just peace in the Middle East and solve the Palestinian problem. I will have talks with Romanian leaders on Middle East developments and the results of President Mubarak's tour."

Volume 10 Number 2815

AMMAN, SUNDAY MARCH 10, 1985, JUMADA THANI 17, 1405

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Hussein, Noor to visit Spain in March

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor will pay an official visit to Spain later this month at the invitation of King Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia, the Royal Palace said Saturday. The palace statement said the three-day visit could be in the last 10 days of March.

Qatari, Qatari leaders receive Hussein's messages

USCATA (Petra) — Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman and Sheikh Khalifa bin Hamad Al Thani of Qatar received messages from His Majesty King Hussein on current Arab affairs and the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on joint action towards solving the Palestinian problem. The messages were delivered by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, who arrived in Doha and met Sheikh Khalifa earlier Saturday before flying to Oman for a meeting with Sultan Qaboos.

Lower House to meet on Tuesday

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House of Parliament Speaker Jafar Fayez Saturday called for an extraordinary session of the House on Tuesday. The House is in recess now.

Arab League warns companies using U.S.-Israel trade zone

TUNIS (AP) — The Arab League has warned of possible repercussions to an agreement between the United States and Israel to form a free trade zone. It said it reserved the right to boycott companies which participate. A statement by the Arab League secretariat asked the Reagan administration to "reconsider its position in order to preserve Arab-American interests." The commercial agreement was initiated Thursday in Washington but has not yet been ratified by the U.S. Congress.

Shawa meets EC commissioner

PARIS (R) — European Community (EC) Commissioner Claude Cheysson Saturday met the mayor of Gaza to discuss assistance for Palestinians in Israeli-occupied territories. A community spokesman said Rasad Al Shawa, dismissed as mayor of Israel in 1982, briefed Mr. Cheysson on conditions in Gaza and the West Bank and discussed scholarships and other aid. He said Mr. Cheysson, community commissioner for Mediterranean affairs and North-South relations, would raise the Palestinian issue during talks on Monday in Brussels with Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

INSIDE

- Superpower guarantees vital for success of Middle East conference, Somalia says, page 2
- Working women call for better childcare facilities, less sexual discrimination, page 3
- Fahed Fanek comments on economic policies advocated by Arthur Caffer, page 4
- Dresden opera house takes up from where it left off 40 years ago, page 5
- Manchester United secures berth in F.A. Cup semifinal, page 6
- China boasts unprecedented growth, page 7
- U.S. to seek 'fair' agreement in Geneva, page 8

Lebanese blame Israel, U.S. and Falangists

Death toll rises to 80 in Beirut blast

BEIRUT (Agencies) — The casualty toll from a car bomb in Beirut's southern suburbs Friday rose to 80 dead and 200 wounded and the areas' residents staged demonstrations blaming the explosion on Israel, the United States and Lebanon's rightist Falange Party.

In the Bir Al Abed suburb hit by Friday's blast, banners reading "Made in USA" were hoisted onto damaged buildings as veiled women marched past piles of debris shouting slogans against Israel and the Falange.

Groups of people, many weeping, sifted through rubble for the remains of relatives. The scene of the explosion remained a shambles Saturday, as rescue workers continued to search for bodies and people returned to surrounding structure to try to retrieve belongings.

A rescue worker, who would not give his name, was asked about the heavy toll, and said the street was crowded with cars and women who had just ended a mosque study session. "It was a traffic jam at that time and sisters who were at a meeting were leaving," he said.

Mohammad Ali Jawad, a pharmacist who was in the back of his shop nearby at the time of the blast, described the scene this way: "People were screaming, hysterical. People were touching themselves to make sure they weren't wounded."

On one overturned car in the street, a sign had been put up that said: "All the troubles of the Muslims come from America — Ayatollah Khomeini." — the patriarch of Iran's Shi'ite Muslims.

Another sign in the neighbourhood said "Down with Israel" and other banners said "Made in U.S.A."

Rescue workers at the scene said Saturday the death toll was so high because butane gas canisters stored in a nearby apartment blew up, spreading fire and hampering rescue operations.

West Beirut hospitals were full and doctors worked late into the night to treat the wounded, many in serious condition. As the death toll rose, a government minister and prominent leaders accused Israel of being behind the blast.

"We have no doubt that Israel is behind this ugly crime," Education and Labour Minister Selim Al Hoss was quoted by Beirut Radio as saying.

"The one who commits crimes in the south on a daily basis... will not hesitate to repeat his actions in a densely populated section of Beirut and its suburbs," he said.

Friday's blast followed an explosion on Monday at a religious centre in the southern Lebanese village of Maarak, within Israel's occupation lines, which killed 11 people.

Muslim leaders blamed Israel for that explosion and threatened retaliation. Israel denied any involvement.

The Shi'ite Amal movement,

locked in a guerrilla fight with Israeli troops occupying areas of South Lebanon, also blamed Israel and said: "We shall have a reply appropriate in size which will reach those who committed it."

The blast blew off the outer walls of an apartment block, set nearby cars ablaze, gouged a big crater in the road and dismembered or badly charred the bodies of many of the victims.

It was the deadliest explosion since November 1983 when a suicide car bomb attack on an Israeli intelligence post in the southern port of Tyre killed 61 people, 29 of them Israelis.

Victims of Friday's blast were buried Saturday, as thousands of demonstrators shook their fists and chanted "Death to America. Death to Israel."

Bodies of victims were transported by ambulances and pick-up trucks from hospital back to the blast scene before being buried at the Rawdat Al Shahidein cemetery.

The bodies — wrapped in black cloth, each with a white tag bearing the name of the victim — were carried by pallbearers to a mass grave in the cemetery two kilometres away. Thousands of demonstrators marched behind.

The demonstrators and militiamen of the dominant Amal movement and those of the Hezbollah militia, led by Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, chanted "America, the Great Satan. Death to America. Death to Israel."

Sheikh Fadlallah, whose residence was about 20 meters from the explosion, looked tired as he walked with a cane during the demonstration, flanked by dozens of bodyguards.



Civil defence and rescue team at the site of Friday's bomb blast near a mosque in west Beirut which killed 80 people and wounded about 200 others (AP wirephoto)

NATO officer escapes attack in W. Germany

MOENCHENGLADBACH, West Germany (R) — One of NATO's most senior officers, Britain's air force commander in West Germany, escaped unharmed Saturday when gunmen shot at his car near Moenchengladbach, a British army spokesman said.

The spokesman said two gunmen fired three shots at the car of Sir Patrick Hine, who commands NATO's 2nd Allied Air Force as well as British air units in West Germany.

He said the gunmen, who were travelling in a Red BMW car, failed to hit Sir Patrick's car, which was being driven by a chauffeur. The three bullets had not yet been found.

The spokesman said the attack happened at midday on a motorway at Moers-Kapellen. This is some 30 kilometres northeast of Moenchengladbach where the British army in West Germany has its headquarters.

Israel has 'enforced' 242, Shamir contends

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel has returned more than 90 per cent of occupied Arab territory and further "concessions" for peace would exceed U.N. resolutions on the subject, Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir contended Saturday.

In an interview with Israeli Radio, Mr. Shamir commented on suggestions that Arab states might be willing to interpret U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 as calling for less than total Israeli withdrawal.

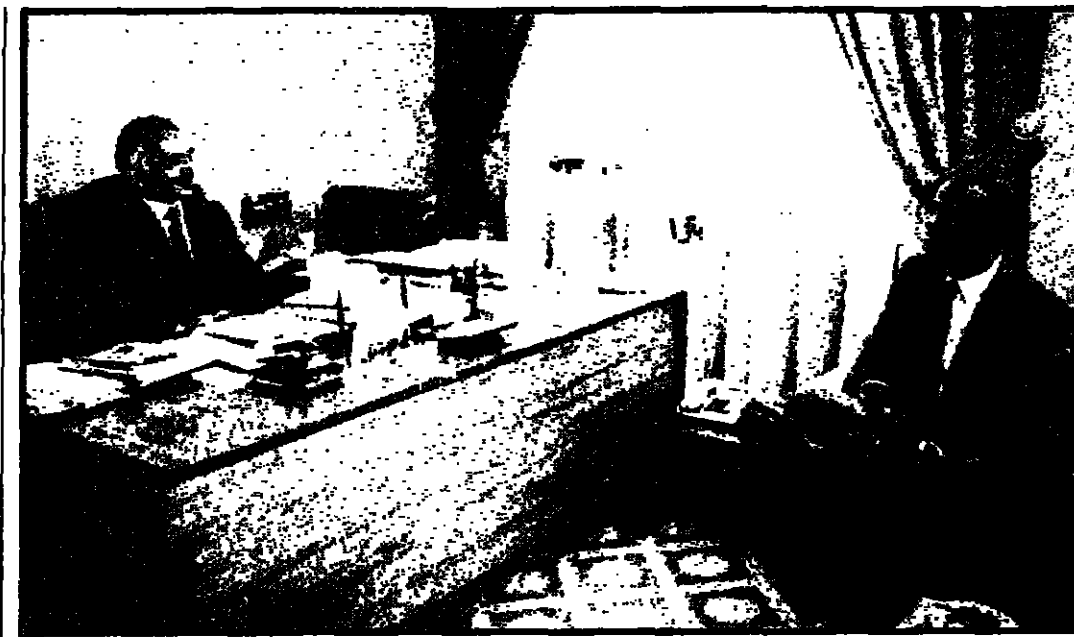
"Israel has already enforced this resolution," he said, adding that any further "concession" would go "beyond" its conditions. Resolution 242, passed on Nov. 22, 1967, has been the basis for most peace initiatives in the Middle East. It calls on Israel to return occupied Arab land in return for secure and recognised borders.

Israel has interpreted the resolution's wording to imply it need not return all occupied territories. Arab states have said the resolution means all war occupied land must be returned.

Mr. Shamir said that in returning the Sinai desert to Egypt in exchange for a peace treaty, Israel had given back "more than 90 per cent of the territories referred to by Resolution 242."

The Sinai Desert is 65,000 square kilometres. Israel still occupies the West Bank, Gaza Strip and Golan Heights which total about 6,500 square kilometres.

Mr. Shamir said Israel could offer Palestinian "autonomy" on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but not return the territory to the Arabs. Palestinian "autonomy" is the enforcement of Resolution 242 on our eastern border," he said.



KING RECEIVES SOMALI MESSAGE: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday receives Somali Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mohammad Ali Hamid, who delivered a message from Somali

President Mohammad Siad Barre to the King on Arab issues and the latest developments in the Arab arena (Somalia supports Jordan-PLO accord, page 2)

5 Israelis wounded in escalated resistance attacks

TYRE, Lebanon (AP) — Five Israeli soldiers were injured, one of them seriously, when the occupation force's checkpoint at the Qasbiyeh Bridge in South Lebanon came under a sustained resistance attack.

Israeli military sources in Tel Aviv on Saturday confirmed the casualty figures from the attack, which kept the area ringing with thousands of rounds of machine gun fire and up to 60 explosions through much of the previous night.

Israeli chief of Staff Moshe Levy was seen driving north through this port city Saturday to review the situation. The bridge, which has been the site of several earlier attacks, spans the Litani River on Israel's "front line."

Military sources here and in Israel reported at least six other attacks overnight Saturday on the Israelis, who have maintained an occupation force in South Lebanon since their June 6, 1982, invasion.

Most of the attacks were in the so-called "arc of resistance" east of Tyre, where increasing resistance activities have prompted Israeli raids, arrests and searches in more than a dozen villages.

At one point during the night, four explosions a minute could be heard coming from the direction of the Qasbiyeh Bridge, and the Western sources said these apparently were from mortars directed at the Israeli position.

Flares lit up the sky as Israeli soldiers tried to pinpoint sources of attack, and tracer bullets could be seen whizzing through the air near the bridge.

One official of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), which is responsible for the care of Palestinian refugees, said Saturday that some of the fighting spilled over into the Qasbiyeh refugee camp near the bridge.

The official, who asked not to be named, said that villagers complained to relief officials that at one point Israeli soldiers moved into the centre of the camp and started firing out. The official said there were no casualties among camp residents.

Yusef Mustafa Yusef, a 52-year-old resident of the camp, said that he hid in tin-roofed home during the barrage. Mr. Yusef and others said they heard an Israeli helicopter land near the bridge, presumably to take out the Israeli wounded.

The sources here said they included rocket-propelled grenades fired at an Israeli position near the village of Deir Qanoun An Naher and at an Israeli post at Al Bas. A roadside bomb exploded as two Israeli armoured personnel carriers passed west of Bourj Rahal, they added.

Grenades also were lobbed at Israeli soldiers near the village of Zarieh, 13 kilometres northeast of here, sources here also said.

Israeli military sources reported two other attacks, including a mortar attack two kilometres north of Jouaiya.

Khaddam, Berri and Junblatt meet Gemayel

BEIRUT (R) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam held talks Saturday thought to cover security problems and political reforms here, one day after a car bomb in a Beirut suburb killed around 80 people and wounded 200.

The talks with President Amin Gemayel and other government leaders were expected to cover reforms to give Muslims more power, promised when the "national unity" government took office 10 months ago, political sources said.

Mr. Khaddam, a veteran negotiator among Lebanese factions, was accompanied by socialist leader Walid Junblatt and Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri, who have boycotted cabinet meetings because of what they say is procrastination over the reforms. Prime Minister Rashid Karami also attended.

"I will not leave here until I finish (my mission). I brought my pyjamas with me," right-wing Falangist Radio reported Mr. Khaddam as saying.

After visiting Lebanon on Tuesday, Mr. Khaddam said he was optimistic that Lebanon's governmental reforms here, one day after a car bomb in a Beirut suburb killed around 80 people and wounded 200.

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Mubarak heads for Washington

PARIS (Agencies) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak left Paris Saturday for Washington to try persuade President Reagan to adopt a Middle East peace plan which has met with cautious welcome from French officials.

Mr. Mubarak, visiting Paris Friday on his way to the U.S., held three hours of talks with President Francois Mitterrand during which he sought French help in convincing the U.S. to support his new drive for a peace settlement in the Middle East.

Mr. Mubarak wants Mr. Reagan to start talks, which Israel could join later, with a joint Palestinian-Jordanian team.

The talks would cover joint proposals by Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), offering peace in exchange for an Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab land.

Mr. Mubarak described Washington's first response as "positive to a certain extent." After meeting Mr. Mitterrand, he said they had both realised they were very close to one another on most topics.

But Mr. Mitterrand's adviser on foreign affairs, Hubert Vedrine, expressed reservations about the initiative, saying it caused an acceleration which could prove harmful to peace moves.

Mr. Vedrine also told reporters that France was planning contacts with Washington on the subject but declined to elaborate.

After leaving Washington, Mr. Mubarak is to travel to London and Rome to rally support for his plan as well as the Feb. 11 accord between Jordan and the PLO.

During his Washington visit, Mr. Mubarak will also press Mr. Reagan for increased American assistance to Egypt, currently estimated at \$2.2 billion a year.

The Reagan administration is asking the U.S. Congress for a total \$2.3 billion in economic and military aid to Egypt for the financial year starting on Oct. 1. Egypt wanted an increase of \$950 million.

Egypt's request for more aid comes at the same time Israel is seeking sharp increases in U.S. assistance (See page 2).

Meanwhile in Cairo, Egyptian Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala warned Saturday of a "very dangerous" situation in the Middle East if the U.S. failed to endorse the joint Jordanian-Palestinian approach to a peace settlement.

He told reporters after attending the inaugural ceremony of the Cairo International Trade Fair: "If this initiative fails, I think the situation here (in the Middle East) is going to be very very critical and very dangerous."

He said he hoped the U.S. would start a dialogue with a joint Palestinian-Jordanian delegation as a first step towards wider talks that would include Israel, then later capped by an international conference.

Both the U.S. and Israel refuse to talk to representatives of the PLO.

Mr. Abu Ghazala denied he was hinting at a possible war and said he was merely hinting at the deteriorating situation that could follow after what may be the last chance for a peaceful solution of the crisis.

5 Sikh hijackers go on trial in Pakistan

LAHORE (AP) — A trial for five Indian Sikh hijackers who commandeered an Indian Airlines jetliner in 1981 started in Lahore Saturday.

The five face a maximum penalty of death if convicted for air piracy. The trial opened in the special court presided by Judge Fazal Karim, who is also the district judge for this western Pakistani city.

The five hijacked an Indian Airlines Boeing 737 on Sept. 29, 1981, while the aircraft was on a New Delhi-Srinagar run, and forced it to land at Lahore. Pakistan's second largest city 27 kilometres west of the Indian border.

The hijacking was part of a Sikh agitation against the Indian central government, and was meant to press for a greater provincial autonomy for Sikhs in the Indian state of Punjab.

The five were identified as Gajinder Singh, the leader of the group, and Sarnam Singh, Jasbir Singh, Kiran Singh and Tajendar Pal Singh.

Last July 5, nine other Sikhs hijacked an Indian Airlines Airbus 300, with 264 aboard to Lahore in a similar incident. No date was given for their trial.

When the five hijackers were brought to court in Lahore's agriculture house government building under heavy police escort, they repeatedly shouted slogans of "Long Live Khalistan" — the name for the hoped-for Sikh state within India.

Pakistan has denied Indian charges of helping Sikh separatists and providing a pistol in to the

hijackers of another Indian plane flown to Lahore in August. They went on to Dubai and surrendered. They were, later sent back to India.

The five put on trial Saturday chanted slogans in support of separatist Sikh leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale who was killed when the Indian army stormed the Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine in Amritsar last summer.

They shouted other slogans, including "Death to Indira Gandhi" — the late Indian prime minister who was killed Oct. 31, by two of her Sikh security guards. She had ordered a military crackdown of the Golden Temple to flush out Sikh extremists.

The five bearded and turbaned Sikhs appeared in good health.

Superpower guarantees vital for success of peace conference, Somalia says

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Somalia considers the Feb. 11 agreement between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) on a formula for joint action towards settling the Palestinian problem as a "positive step towards achieving a just and durable peace in the Middle East," a senior Somali minister said Saturday.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Mohammad Ali Hamid, who arrived here Thursday on an official visit during which he delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein from Somali President Mohammad Siad Barre, told the Jordan Times that Somalia, a member of the Arab League, supports "all efforts for uniting Arab ranks to confront the challenges facing the Arab Nation."

President Siad Barre's message to King Hussein also dealt with Somali-Jordanian relations and Arab and international issues, Mr. Hamid said.

While Somalia supports the call for an international conference on the Middle East, as outlined in the Jordan-PLO accord, it also believes that the success of such a conference depends on the United States and the Soviet Union, Mr. Hamid said.



Mohammad Ali Hamid

"The superpowers should undertake guarantees that they would break the stalemate in efforts for peace in the Middle East and bring forth tangible solutions for a just peace in the region," the Somali

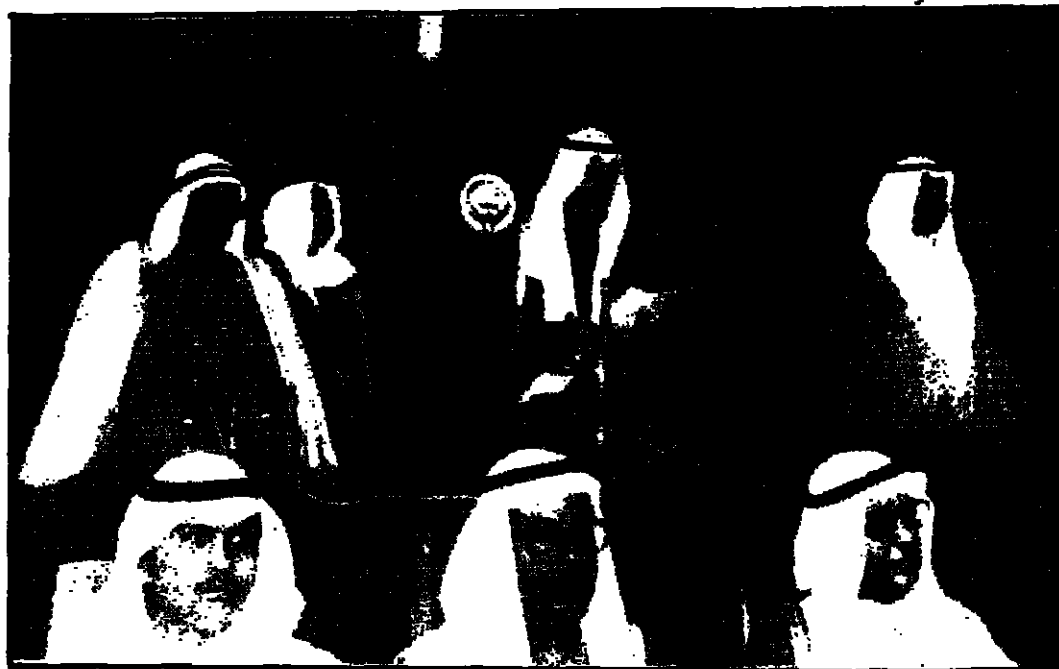
minister said. "In the past we have seen that they do not agree on anything and we do not want a repetition of such a deadlock in the envisaged conference," he explained.

"It has been rare that the two superpowers have agreed on any common issue since both are after their own interests in the region," he said. "Therefore, it is imperative that they, before sitting down for an international conference, commit themselves to solving the Middle East problem," he added.

Turning to the 53-month-old Iran-Iraq war, which he described as "senseless and destructive" and a "crucial issue for the Arab World," Mr. Hamid said Somalia is "committed to all Arab summit resolutions which call for a peaceful end to the Gulf conflict."

In reply to a question on Jordanian-Somali trade and economic relations, Mr. Hamid said he was due to meet Minister of Trade and Industry Jawad Al Anani to discuss the "framework for a bilateral agreement" to initiate trade between the two countries.

He explained that Somalia was seeking to buy Jordanian cement, industrial products and minerals in exchange for Somali products, most notably its vast animal wealth, fish and agricultural products.



NEW KUWAITI PARLIAMENT OPENED: The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, Saturday inaugurates Kuwait's sixth elected parliament. Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Sabah is on Sheikh Jaber's left (AP wirephoto)

U.N. chief seeks terms for Gulf POW exchange

UNITED NATIONS (R) — United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has written to Iraq and Iran asking them to set conditions under which they would exchange prisoners taken in their nearly five-year-old war.

The Security Council has deferred debate on the issue after one meeting this week at Iraq's request to consider a U.N. committee report saying both sides treated prisoners harshly.

In the council discussion Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz proposed an exchange starting with the sick and disabled.

Iran is boycotting the council proceedings but its representative, said Rajia Khorassani, urged in a talk with reporters that very young Iranian prisoners be given priority.

Shamir says Egypt seeks Arab consensus not peace

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Saturday Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak's Middle East peace plan was an attempt to find an Arab consensus and not peace with Israel.

Mr. Shamir, speaking on Israeli state radio, said Mr. Mubarak's initiative "does not constitute peace negotiations with Israel. It is an attempt to come up with a plan agreeable to the Palestine Liberation Organisation, Jordan and Egypt."

Mr. Shamir, who also serves as deputy prime minister, reiterated his view that Israel should not give up the West Bank captured from Jordan in the 1967 Middle East war under any peace agreement.

"In the future, Israel will not agree to territorial demands and will continue to demand sovereignty over Judea and Samaria (Israeli term for the West Bank) according to the Camp David peace accords," he said.

Mr. Shamir's right-wing Likud

Kuwait, GCC to renew bid to end Gulf war

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Sa'ad Al Abdullah Al Sabah pledged Saturday to redouble efforts with other Gulf Arab states to seek an end to the four-and-a-half year old Iran-Iraq war.

The southernmost front of the war lies only 50 kilometres from Kuwait.

Addressing the National Assembly, Sheikh Sa'ad voiced regret that past attempts by the six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) had failed to end the conflict, which he said had fuelled fear throughout the region.

"Protection of our homeland, sovereignty and independence against aggression requires that we continue to develop our defence capabilities," he said.

The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, inaugurated the new term of the only elected Gulf Arab parliament Saturday with a warning that Kuwait faced "very critical, delicate" times.

The crown prince listed independence and sovereignty, commitment to the Arab and Islamic World, and a non-aligned stance towards the superpowers as pillars around which foreign policy will continue to develop.

Relations with the other Gulf Cooperation Council members — Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates — will receive special attention, he added.

He reiterated Kuwait's support

for the Palestinian cause, and said the time had come for an "honest" look at Arab realities and expectations in solving the Middle East crisis.

Attempts to resolve the problem should rise above inter-Arab differences, and pinpoint priorities for joint action.

Alluding to the end of the oil boom, he also called for a reappraisal of Kuwait's own future needs. "The time has passed when some speculated that money alone was enough to promote society and that oil alone was enough to cover our needs."

Kuwait faced "new circumstances, under which there is no permanent flow of funds. Spending would be rationalised and policy aimed at achieving broad-based, long-lasting growth."

Meanwhile in Muscat a squadron of Kuwaiti Air Force fighters left Thumrait Air Base in southern Oman Saturday after a week of joint exercises with the Omani Air Force, state-run Radio Oman said.

The exercises were the latest in a series designed to improve military coordination between the member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

The Omani Air Force last year held joint manoeuvres with units from Saudi Arabia and the Emirates.

The Omani official press has given few details of the exercises this week and the number or type of planes in the Kuwaiti squadron was not available.

Egypt's International Trade Fair opens

CAIRO (AP) — Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali Saturday opened Egypt's 18th International Trade Fair, featuring a variety of products from roses and calculators to cars and airplanes.

The fair, which has attracted exhibitors from Egypt and 32 other countries, is aimed toward giving foreign companies a chance to market their products here and for displaying and selling Egyptian products.

According to officials, some 2,000 foreign companies are participating in the fair, including those from the United States, West Germany, Britain, France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Italy and Israel.

Sudan was the only participating Arab country. Seventeen Arab countries severed diplomatic ties with Egypt following its 1979 peace treaty with Israel. Jordan resumed full ties with the Cairo government last year, but it did not participate in the fair.

Products in the Israeli pavilion were on show but the exhibit was closed because of the Jewish Sabbath.

U.S. sends ships for possible Lebanon evacuation

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. officials said the U.S. aircraft carrier Eisenhower left the Mediterranean island of Majorca hurriedly, apparently to be in position if a decision is made to evacuate Americans from Lebanon.

State Department spokesman Edward Djerejian said: "first let me make it very clear that embassy personnel are not being evacuated from Lebanon."

But he added: "Obviously we continue to be concerned about the security of U.S. government personnel in Lebanon and have their safety and their status continually under review."

A U.S. official who did not want to be named made clear that Mr. Djerejian was not ruling out a decision later to evacuate U.S. embassy personnel and other Americans from Lebanon.

The same official confirmed that the Eisenhower left Majorca three days ahead of schedule, so fast that 110 of its crewmen were left behind.

He refused to comment when asked if Americans might be evacuated because of Lebanese threats to retaliate against them if the United States vetoes a U.N. resolution censuring Israeli military actions against civilians there.

The State Department refused to say how many U.S. embassy

personnel it had in Beirut but estimated there were 1,400 U.S. citizens in Lebanon. It said many of them are dual citizens.

Other sources said the Eisenhower, accompanied by the U.S. guided missile destroyer Mississippi, headed for the Eastern Mediterranean.

The CBS Television Network said two U.S. C-130 Hercules transports, which could be used for an evacuation, arrived in Cyprus Friday.

Jean Kirkpatrick, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations, said Thursday that three threats had been made to retaliate against Americans if the United States vetoed the U.N. resolution. The most recent threat was two days ago.

She said the United States and Britain both were named as countries that would "face strong problems" if they used their power of veto against the resolution.

She did not say how she would vote when the resolution is acted upon, possibly not until next week.

But the American Ambassador in Beirut, Reginald Bartholomew, was reported there to have informed the Lebanese government that there would be a veto if it pressed the document to a vote.

U.S. to grant new aid to Israel soon

WASHINGTON (R) — Israeli Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai said he was satisfied that the Reagan administration would soon propose new aid for his country's seriously troubled economy.

The administration has delayed proposing the economic aid package to Congress, saying Israel must implement more stringent economic reforms for the funds to have any benefit.

Asked at a press conference, at the end of three days of talks with U.S. officials, whether he was satisfied he would get most or all of what he requested, Mr. Mordechai replied: "Yes, the answer is yes."

He said he agreed with senior U.S. officials not to divulge the economic aid figures.

"All I can say is we came to an understanding of the objective itself. The methods, timing, figures, if you wish, will be worked out by the parties this week," he said.

But congressional sources told

Reuters they expected Israel would receive \$1.2 billion in 1986, as it did in 1985, plus a one-time emergency allocation of \$1.5 billion over two years.

These sources said they expected that an announcement of the aid package would come after Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, who is also seeking increased U.S. assistance, visits Washington.

Explaining the administration's delay in proposing the package, Secretary of State George Shultz this week compared Israel's wage-price control programme for economic recovery to clamping a lid on a boiler that will explode if the heat is not turned down.

Undersecretary of State Allen Wallis said reforms already taken were not enough to prevent potential economic collapse.

Mr. Mordechai reacted evenly to these strong statements. After three days of private talks, "I believe that we're all in agree-

ment that Israel is moving in the right direction with the objective of curing its economy," he said.

Pro-Israel congressmen criticised the White House for delaying the aid request and said it was imposing conditions on Israel it did not impose on Egypt, whose economy was also ailing.

Mr. Mordechai distanced himself from these comments. "We feel we're among friends. We don't feel any pressure and we don't see any relevance between whatever aid is extended to Egypt and that which is extended to Israel," he said.

He was also asked why Israel did not seek help from the International Monetary Fund, which has imposed tight conditions on many other economically-troubled countries.

"Turning to IMF is actually bringing in a surgeon to do surgery on you, economic surgery," Mr. Mordechai said.

Morocco not interested in W. Sahara compromise

MAARAKE (R) — King Hassan of Morocco has made clear he is not interested in a compromise solution in the Western Sahara and is sticking to his proposal for a referendum on self-determination.

The choice in such a referendum is simple — either independence or integration with Morocco.

"There cannot be a third solution," King Hassan told a news conference in this southern city late Friday night.

The king was replying to questions about recent secret talks between Morocco and Algeria aimed at easing tension caused by Morocco's nine-year-old war with Algerian-backed Polisario guerrillas.

He said he will start a tour of the

Western Sahara on Sunday which will include a visit to Moroccan military defences. The Moroccan Parliament will also hold a special session in the Western Sahar town of La' Youn.

King Hassan ruled out autonomy for the former Spanish colony and a formula by which the king would be at the same time head of the Moroccan Kingdom and of a Saharan Republic.

He said Morocco would press the United Nations to help organise a referendum along lines agreed at the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) summit in Nairobi in 1982.

"We are not in a hurry... but if a referendum was to be held tomorrow, we are ready for it," King Hassan said.

Food emergency in Africa worsening, FAO says

NAIROBI (R) — The food emergency in Africa is worsening and the international community must deliver pledged food aid to 21 stricken countries urgently, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) said Saturday.

The monthly Food Outlook report said the crisis was most acute in Chad, Ethiopia, Mali, Mozambique, Niger and Sudan.

"Although the number of af-

ected countries is less than last year, the crisis is more severe in terms of human suffering and lost production opportunities," the report said.

Reports of deaths from starvation had increased in several countries and the situation was expected to worsen in the coming months, the report said.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
639, 720, 1413 KHz	639, 720, 1413 KHz
MAIN CHANNEL	06:00 News 06:30 On The Floor 06:45 Financial Review 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Good Books 07:45 Letter from America 08:00 News 08:30 Jazz for the Ailing 09:00 World News 09:09 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 From Our Own Correspondent 09:50 Letter from London 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 The Pleasure of Your 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 Sports Review 11:45 In Site of Ourselves 12:00 News Summary: Short Story 12:15 Classical Record 12:30 Religious Service 12:40 World News 12:50 News About Britain 13:15 From Our Own Correspondent 13:30 Baker's Half Dozen 14:00 News Summary: Play of the Week 14:10 World News 14:19 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Goldfinger 15:45 The Sound of Music 16:00 News Summary 16:30 Crusade Jump 17:00 Radio Newsworld 17:15 Concert Hall 18:00 World News 18:09 Commentary 18:15 Time Remembered 18:45 Letter from America 19:00 World News 19:09 Meridian 19:40 Reflections 19:45 Sports 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NEWS IN BRIEF

French government honours Ghandour

AMMAN (Petra) — The French government has awarded Mr. Ali Ghandour, the chairman of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, a medal of honour in recognition of his achievements in the aviation field. The medal, awarded for the first time during the time of Napoleon Bonaparte, is one of the highest medals usually awarded to people who perform important tasks or extraordinary services in war or in peace.

Nabulsi approves Tla'a Al Ali budget

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi has approved the JD 1,495,000 budget for Tla'a Al Ali Municipality on the outskirts of Amman. The budget allocates JD 30,000 for public cleanliness and JD 200,000 for acquisition of land, JD 15,000 for constructing new premises for the municipality, JD 100,000 for constructing embankments and pavements, JD 687,000 for constructing streets and JD 50,000 for building boundary walls for gardens and cemeteries.

Heavy fuel consumption rises in 1984

AMMAN (Petra) — The total amount of fuel consumed for generating energy in Jordan totalled about 605,622 tonnes of heavy fuel in 1984, against 497,096 tonnes during the year 1983, representing an increase of 21.8 per cent. The quantity of diesel used for generating electric power totalled 285,888 tonnes in 1984 against 43,453 tonnes in 1983.

France to loan JD 26.6m for development projects

AMMAN (Petra) — France is to grant Jordan a loan of 660 million francs (JD 26.6 million) to finance development projects in Jordan under an agreement signed by the two countries in Paris. The agreement, which was signed by the secretary general of the Ministry of Planning, Dr. Ziyad Fariz, provides for extending the loan under two different terms. One part of the loan will be under easy terms and the second will be at commercial terms, Dr. Fariz said upon returning to Amman. He said that 460 million francs will be spent by the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) to help it carry out its rural-urban projects and the rest of the loan will be used to finance other development projects in Jordan.

Cooperation with Denmark

Dr. Fariz earlier went to Copenhagen where he took part in the

132 industries receive licences

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of new licences for industries in 1984 soared 115 per cent over 1980 and amounted to 132, according to the director of the Industry Department at the Ministry of Industry and Trade, Dr. Akram Karmoul. He said that the total capital invested in those projects is JD 37 million, which is JD 3 million less than in 1983. Dr. Karmoul said that 26 per cent of these industries are food industries, 24 per cent eng-

ineering, 18 per cent chemical, 13 per cent plastic and 19 per cent are construction, textile, wood and paper industries.

He said those industries employ 2,861 workers as compared to 2,756 workers employed by industry in 1983.

As for occupational industries he said that they numbered 710 workshops in 1984, 203 per cent more than in 1980, with a total capital investment of JD 3,480,000 and employing 2,800 workers.

French centre presents archaeology lectures

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The French contribution to Jordanian and Middle Eastern archaeology will be highlighted in the coming year by a series of public lectures by French and Jordanian scholars in the area. The series of lectures, entitled "Forum", will take place at the French Cultural Centre throughout this year. The first three lectures this month are on the work at Khirbet es Samra, the Nabataean village of Khirbet edh Dharir and southern Syria.

In cooperation with the Department of Antiquities, 14 French missions have worked to enrich our knowledge of the past of Jordan, from the Palaeolithic period to the Umayyads. The French Institute of Archaeology for the Near East (IFAO) and the French Biblical and Archaeological School of Jerusalem have established a permanent residence in Jordan.

The aim of "Forum" is to offer a series of lectures at the French Cultural Centre, to allow a larger audience to follow recent research about the region, including Jordan, and to encourage the exchange of information.

These lectures, which will be delivered throughout this year, will be assembled and published under the scientific supervision of the IFAO. They will constitute a volume of varied archaeological research accessible to the interested public.

In 1985, the programme of lectures will include Mr. J. Sapin (Historical Geomorphology in Archaeological Survey — A case: the South of Ajloun); Dr. Zeidoun Al Moheissen (Water at Petra); Mrs. Alix Barbet (The painted tombs of north Jordan); Miss Patricia Carlier (Umayyad Castle of Qastal).

Other scholars participating in-

lude J. Balensi, A. Canbet, G. Dolfus, J. Seigne, P.L. Gattier, G. Tate and P. Lenoble, as well as several Jordanian scholars.

The lectures will be conducted in English and French. For further information, contact: Francois Villeneuve, scientific secretary of IFAO, Tel. 673871, or Jany Bourdais, director of the French Cultural Centre, Tel. 37009/36445.

During March, "Forum" includes three lectures by distinguished French scholars. On March 11, at 6 p.m., Jean-Baptiste Humbert of the Ecole Biblique et Archeologique Francaise de Jerusalem will speak on "The Excavations at Khirbet es Samra near Zarka, 1981 - 1984." Since 1981, the Nabataean, Roman and Umayyad site of Khirbet Samra, situated on the desert border, has been the core of intensive studies which led to the discovery of a preserved Roman fortress and a series of mosaics.

On March 20, at 6 p.m., Francois Villeneuve and Francois Larche, of the Institut Francais d'Archeologie due Proche Orient, will speak on "The First Season of Excavations at Khirbet edh Dharir near Tafleeh, 1984. With this new excavation, conducted by Jordanian and French experts, the Nabataean civilisation is approached with a new concept — that of a village's built-up area. Khirbet edh Dharir is a Nabataean village endowed with a big temple and a spacious cemetery.

On March 28, at 6 p.m., Jean-Marie Dentzer of the Universite de Paris 1, will speak on "Southern Syria in the Hellenistic and Roman Periods". For ten years, a French team has concentrated its studies on the monuments and history of the Hauran, a very rich agricultural region of Syria from the 1st Century BC to the 3rd Century AD.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Friday honours pioneer Jordanian doctors at a ceremony held by the Jordan Medical Association (Petra photo)

Hassan pays tribute to pioneer doctors

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan paid tribute to pioneer doctors in a ceremony held by the Jordan Medical Association (JMA) at the Professional Association Complex on Friday evening.

Prince Hassan said that we should stress the human and moral values that these doctors have displayed during an era when individuals stood for institutions.

He praised the role that the pio-

neer doctors played in building the infrastructure for medical services in the country and the help they also provided to neighbouring Arab countries in the field of innovative medical science.

The Crown Prince also thanked the president and members of the JMA for their efforts in holding the fourth Jordanian medical conference which concluded in Amman on Friday.

JMA President Hassan Khreis

and veteran doctor Salehaddin Anabawi earlier delivered speeches in which they thanked Prince Hassan for patronising the ceremony. They also praised the role of pioneer doctors in advancing medical services in the Kingdom.

Prince Hassan later awarded the pioneer doctors or their relatives, on their behalf, with certificates and medals.

Amman police apprehend gang of six thieves

AMMAN (J.T.) — A gang of six thieves have been apprehended by police while attempting to steal from a shop in the Qweishmeir area of Amman, according to a report in the Arabic daily Al Ra'i.

Police started surveillance of the area after receiving several complaints from shop owners that their premises had been broken into and the contents of their shops had been stolen.

Police conducted several tests at the burgled shops including the lifting of fingerprints. Police also determined that the burglars used metal rods to break locks or windows to enter the shops.

A police squad camped in the area and lay in waiting for the burglars. They caught the gang while they were attempting their fourth burglary.

The six in their testimonies admitted stealing goods worth JD 10,000 and evenly splitting the spoils. They said that they met at a cafe in downtown Amman and their leader, a 34-year-old, suggested the idea of stealing.

Hikmat chairs meeting on archaeology conference

AMMAN — Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities and Acting Minister of Information Taher Hikmat Saturday presided over a meeting of the preparatory committee for third international conference on Jordan's history and archaeology.

The conference is due to tackle Jordan's external commercial relations until the Ottoman era and is expected to convene next April at Tubingen University in the Fed-

eral Republic of Germany. The preparatory committee comprises Mr. Hikmat, presidents of the Universities of Jordan, Yarmouk and Mu'ta, Jordan National Geographic Centre President Ra'afat Al Majali, heads of archaeology and history departments at Jordan's universities, directors of the international archaeological centres in Jordan and a number of archaeologists and historians.

Ajlouni discusses cooperation with U.S. university delegation

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Kamel Al Ajlouni Saturday discussed with a visiting delegation of doctors from Wisconsin University in the United States cooperation between the ministry and the university in medical fields and ways of developing this cooperation in the field of training medical staff.

The delegation arrived here Thursday on a several day visit at the invitation of the Ministry of Health to get acquainted with the ministry's hospitals and medical centres and the services they offer to citizens.

Also Saturday Dr. Ajlouni discussed with Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin the ministry's plans for Irbid Governorate which aim at making available health services throughout the northern region. They also reviewed the ministry's plan which aims to open a number of new health centres in the governorate's villages during this year.

ministry's hospitals and medical centres and the services they offer to citizens.

Amphetamine problem is escalating in the Arab World, Gharaibeh says

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In spite of strict measures for the prevention and eradication of illegal plantation and trafficking of drugs in the Arab region, the drug problem is still escalating, according to Brigadier-General Yousef Gharaibeh, the director general of the Pan Arab Narcotics Affairs Bureau, under the Pan Arab Organisation of Social Defence of Ministers of Interior Council.

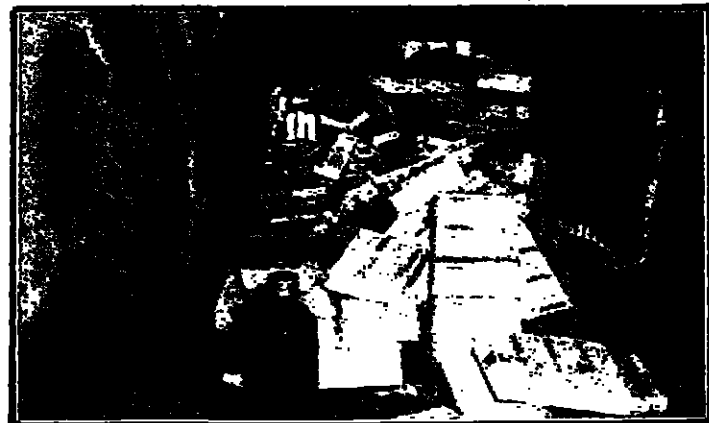
The most affected area in the Arab World is the Gulf area where opiates and amphetamines are used. "The amphetamine problem," Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh told the Jordan Times, "is escalating everywhere. We particularly witness the increasing use of an anti-depressive drug, 'Captagon'. Though Captagon is not as yet listed officially as a narcotic drug, I have personally called upon representatives of the World Health Organisation (WHO) which is responsible for the screening and categorising of drugs, to hasten their research on this product."

Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh said that hashish is still cultivated in Lebanon and Morocco and in some parts of Sudan, and this production is affecting the illicit market in the Arab World and in the European countries.

European concern

He added that European countries are very concerned in fighting production and trafficking of drugs in the world. An United Nations "Funds for Drug Abuse Control" is collected by the United Nations in what they have described as "just a start in this direction". Among the largest contributors to this fund is Italy with \$4 million per year and the USA with \$2 million per year. Saudi Arabia donated about \$1.2 million for this year.

Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh said that Saudi Arabia has made good efforts and has taken a good stand against drugs, favouring very strict



Amphetamines, seized by the Narcotic and Forgery Control Department, are becoming an increasing drug problem all over the world (Al Ra'i photo)

measures and showing interest and support in any action taken in order to face the problem of drugs in the Arab World. It is presently helping to finance anti-drugs measures in Pakistan.

Jordan, he said, has also for a long time maintained a strong stand against drugs. There are no plantations in the country and, though in the 1950's Jordan was acting as a transit country for Lebanese hashish, this problem has now greatly diminished, thanks to new penalties, a very good reward system and a specialised department. A special court for narcotics cases also contributed to avoid the danger of drug problems in the Kingdom, he added.

"In the Arab countries", Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh continued, "there is, however, only one phenomenon of no trace whatsoever of drugs in spite of its proximity with other countries with legal and illegal plantations. While Iraq has very strict laws against drug abuse and trafficking, these same laws have not prevented the problem in other countries such as Iran, so I think the Iraqi situation deserves a study we can all benefit from."

Important change

Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh believes that another important change which has just taken place in the organisational structure of Interpol will affect international pol-

ice co-operation. This change was brought on by the recent resignation of Mr. Andre Bossard from his post of secretary general of Interpol, giving a chance to his deputy, a very well-known police officer who is seconded from Scotland Yard, Mr. Raymond Kindel, to take over. Mr. Kindel is the first non-French officer to take up a top position in Interpol since World War II. "Many international organisations view this as a very important turnover", said Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh, "since Mr. Kindel has proved himself as being very efficient and productive. We hold hopes that he will complete in effectiveness and enthusiasm what his predecessors had achieved". An official election for a new secretary general will be held by Interpol in 2 years, but in the meantime Mr. Kindel will hold the post.

The Pan Arab Narcotics Affairs Bureau, which Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh oversees, is an organisation working under the Arab Ministers of Interior Council, which comprises 21 ministers and meets once a year. Jordan is chairing this year's council. "The Arab Ministers of Interior Council", Brig-Gen. Gharaibeh said, "is taking great interest in the problems of drugs and has established a special committee which will give recommendations for the next council meeting".

Jordanian women outline problems they are facing

Working women call for better childcare facilities, less sexual discrimination

This is the second article in a two-part feature on Jordanian women and their views on the status, conditions and problems of women in the Kingdom. To mark International Women's Day, Jordan Times reporter Lamis K. Andoni questioned a random cross-section of working women on the problems they face trying to work and raise a family together with their opinions on "women's liberation".

By Lamis K. Andoni
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Rana Al Sharaa, a twenty-two year old beautician, says that for her women's emancipation could be realised when a woman is able to depend on herself financially and takes her own decisions. Rana, who left school at the age of sixteen to support her family, recalls that at the beginning "it was very difficult but gradually I learned how to cope."

"My work, which I grew to like very much, made me more confident in myself and my abilities, particularly when I felt that I was doing well," she said.

Rana is engaged and will get married soon but has no intention to stop working. "I like my work and I would want to share the burdens of life with my husband", she said. But she admits that once she gets married it would not be very easy to continue working, especially if she wants to have children. "There are not many child-care centres around and the ones that are there are usually expensive", she said.

Randa M., who asked that her full name not be mentioned, is 27-year-old hairdresser who started working right after getting a divorce from her husband seven months ago. Randa told the Jordan Times that she took working right after the divorce "to depend on myself and start a new stage of my life."

Randa was married off by her parents at the age of sixteen and had to stand against all her family as well as social pressures to get the divorce, but had lost the custody of her seven year old son.

"I do not think that it was fair, but my bitter experience taught me a long time ago that fairness hardly exists when it comes to women's rights and unless a woman fights back, she ends up the loser", she said. Randa says that the main problem she is facing as a working woman is "the wrong perception" many people have about divorced women. "When some people find out that I am divorced, they seem to misunderstand the motives that led me to work," she explained. "However, that will not stop from continuing my work although I still strongly feel that a woman would never be able to obtain her rights no matter what she did," she added.

Iman Abou Ghosh, a twenty-seven year old researcher who works at the Ministry of Labour, says that the major problem facing Jordanian working women is securing an appropriate child-care centre.

Childcare centres

Iman, a mother of a fifteen-month-old girl, explains that the Ministry of Labour has solved this problem by opening a child care

centre for the ministry's women employees. However, she adds, securing a childcare centre is still a real obstacle for most working women, particularly in the private sector.

She notes that the existing childcare centres are expensive and that the rates are getting higher. "They can reach as high as JD 40-50 a month", she said.

Moreover, most childcare centres lack qualified and trained baby sitters and enough space for the children to play and rarely have outside playgrounds.

She observes that this problem could be solved for most working women if companies and institutions abide by the Labour Law. According to the Labour Law, any company or institution which employs 20 or more women should open a childcare centre for its women employees. "Unfortunately, most companies evade applying the law by claiming that they have less than 20 women employees, and they get away with it", she said. Many Jordanian working women are forced to employ Arab or foreign baby-sitters, she added.

Iman, who holds a bachelors degree in political science and is currently working on a masters degree in demographic studies, expresses disappointment regarding the status of Jordanian working women.

Sexual discrimination

"There is clear sexual discrimination in appointing and promoting working women," she said. "Most administrators and supervisors still base their judgement on old stereotypes of what a woman could and what she could not do", she added.

But the worst part of it, according to Iman, is that working women, particularly in the public sector, stand a meagre chance of getting to higher positions. She points out that no woman until now, and regardless of her seniority at a ministry or her qualifications, has been able to reach the post of a ministry's under-secretary or a minister. It is true that Jordan had two women ministers — former Minister of Social Development In'am Al Mufli and Information Minister Laila Sharaf — but both of them were appointed for their individual qualifications and did not reach their

posts through climbing up the job ladder. "Therefore their success in getting such high posts reflected examples of individual achievement and not that of social 'achievement'", Iman said.

She believes the status of working women could be improved if they become more aware of their role and rights and stand up to attain them. "The lack of awareness of many Jordanian women regarding their rights leads to a lack of self-confidence on the part of these women," she noted.

Women, in Iman's view, should work to develop their capabilities and awareness. She observes that although an increasing number of young Jordanian women are continuing their higher education, many of them still do not perceive education as a means to increase their awareness and independence and consequently to improve the role and improve the conditions of women in society.

As the head of the Information Department at the Ministry of Labour, Siham Mansour says that she works "to provide her four children with a better standard of living and that she has no career ambitions."

Siham, who also supervises the ministry's programme for childcare, complains that the double task of taking care of a home and working "is exhausting for many women."

Siham says that her daily routine of working at the ministry until 2 p.m. and taking care of the children and the house in the afternoon and the evening could be extremely exhausting at times and "reflects on my health."

"The problem that most working women, especially those who have children, face is that most men still conceive childcare and home economics strictly as a woman's job and consequently do not help out in the house", she said.

Maternity leave, insurance

Hanan Al Ameri, a 32-year-old secretary, says that she started working right after she left school but had to stop for a while when she got married five years ago. Hanan, a mother of two now and expecting a third soon, is happy to go back to the working life again but wishes that "the maternity leave would be extended."

Working women in the public sector are entitled to a 28-day maternal leave but Hanan says "it is simply not enough."

Another problem that a working woman in the public sector encounters is that her children are not covered in her health insurance. "Children could be included in a man's health insurance, but in many cases, like mine, when the husband is not working in the public sector, the children are excluded from the mother's health insurance," Hanan explained. She believes that there should not be such discrimination and that "women workers are as entitled to include their children in their health insurance as their fellow male colleagues."

Narcotics department clamps down on increasing drug trafficking operations

AMMAN (J.T.) — A study undertaken by the prisons' administration has established that a total of 1,473 prisoners are serving various prison terms on a number of charges ranging from fraud, robbery and forgery, to offering bribes and trafficking narcotics.

The study revealed that the number of fugitives topped the list, while the number of those convicted for trafficking narcotics ranked second, as the number of the latter totalled 181, compared with 234 for the first group.

The Narcotics and Forgery Control Department, in cooperation with the security forces, have arrested a number of gangs which committed trafficking, promoting and circulating of narcotics in Jordan during the second half of 1984 in the period from June 21, 1984 to Jan. 12, 1985, a

report in the Arabic daily newspaper Al Ra'i said Saturday. Speaking about the trafficking of narcotics, Colonel Hashem Al Qaisi, director of the Narcotic and Forgery Control Department, said that his department seized 6 million contraband Captagon pills in the north easterly parts of Jordan which were about to be trafficked from Syria to Saudi Arabia via Jordan.

Trafficers used various means of transport such as cars, motor cycles and camels to transport the contraband pills whose total value is estimated at JD 2,543,222. Col. Qaisi said.

He added that 66 people were involved in this process, 24 of whom are Jordanians whilst the rest are various other nationalities.

Speaking about the trafficking of heroin, Col. Qaisi said that his

department has seized 10,457 kilograms in ten cases and that 18 persons, all of whom are non-Jordanians, have been involved in this operation. The biggest operation in this field was to be trafficked to the United States by a foreigner who flew from Damascus airport to the Queen Alia International Airport en route to the United States. Another quantity was about to be trafficked to Egypt via Jordan, he added. Trafficers were Egyptians who came from Syria by land via Jordan to Egypt and the heroin quantities seized are worth JD 83,656,000, he said.

Speaking about hashish trafficking, Col. Qaisi said the department seized 142,746 kilograms in 15 cases and that 23 traffickers, including 12 Jordanians, were involved.

The estimated value of the quantity is JD 142,746,360. Concerning planting of hashish in Jordan, Col. Qaisi said 155 plants have been seized in Hassa, Irbid and Amman and that four Jordanians have been involved. The department has also seized 6,220 kilograms of opium in two cases and that seven people, including four Jordanians, have been involved in this operation.

Speaking about currency forgery, Col. Qaisi said that his department has arrested 22 persons in 19 separate cases. They were promoting forged travellers cheques in dollars, he said.



Bags of hashish intercepted by the Narcotic and Forgery Control Department (Al Ra'i photo)

Jordan Times

Editorial and advertising offices:
 Jordan Times Publications
 University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan
 Telephone: 566320, 566321 Telex: 219971 JORDAN
 Telegram: JORDTIMES Amman Jordan
 The Jordan Times is published daily except on public holidays and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

The drama goes on

IN BEIRUT, a car bomb kills more than 60 people and injures several hundred.

In the Israeli-occupied West Bank, Birzeit University is closed by the occupation authorities for the tenth time since 1967.

In the United States, the American government prepares to bring into action the free trade zone agreement with Israel.

In Beirut the American embassy advises the Lebanese government that the United States would veto a Security Council resolution condemning Israeli actions in southern Lebanon.

Are these distinct, unrelated acts, or the logical extensions of a central drama that is now reaching its full potential for irrationality, human suffering and moral weaknesses? The thread that runs through all of these events, and many others as well, is the rabid Israeli/American focus on Israel's "security" as being more important than anything else in the vicinity, including international law, the spirit of the American tradition of fair ethical standards, or the lives of millions of Arabs living around Israel.

The irony is that Israel is probably enjoying less security as it increases its militaristic adventures and funds itself by ever more generous grants of American money. In fact, as we see in a macabre way in Lebanon, Israel's resort to militarism to deal with the Palestinian challenge only creates new problems for Israel, such as the hatred of Israel being generated among Lebanese, while the Palestinian issue itself remains unresolved.

Israel cannot forever deal with its neighbours by bombings and university closures and savage attacks against entire villages — and then run to Washington for money and soothing words of support. If Israelis are incapable of seeing the absurdity in all this, the Americans should not be so blind — or complicitous.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Prevent Israeli goods from reaching Arab markets

THE ARABS have heard of the U.S.-Israeli free trade zone agreement and so far have taken no measures to prevent Israeli goods through this agreement from finding their way into Arab markets.

It is true that the Arab League has warned that foreign nations cooperating with the new U.S.-Israeli zone will be blacklisted, but the problem requires more effective measures than this. Measures that can deter world countries from cooperating with the new zone. The Arabs are also required to take steps to prevent the invasion by Israeli goods of their own markets. They must start by reexamining their trade with the United States and the Arab money deposits in U.S. banks which help both the American and Israeli goods to be produced and marketed abroad.

Taking partial measures is not enough in the face of the danger looming ahead. We cannot deny that differences do exist between Arab countries, but these differences should not stop us from taking the necessary measures to foil Israeli attempt aimed at flooding our markets with its goods. If we succeed in aborting the U.S.-Israeli conspiracy, the way will be open for other constructive steps to enhance our stand. Failing to take proper action now can lead to disaster.

Sawt Al Shaab: Save civilian victims

THE NEW development in the Gulf war which started with the Iranian shelling of the Iraqi city of Basra casts further darkness over peace in the region. The war is now in its fifth year and the Iranian regime is adamant in its stand and determined to pursue criminal actions that can be destructive to Iran itself more than Iraq.

The present regime in Tehran insists on deepening the hatred between the Iranian people and the Arab Nation and persists in efforts which can lead nowhere. The shelling of Basra has violated a U.N.-sponsored agreement signed last year requesting both sides in the war to desist from shelling civilian areas. The Iranian attacks violate all U.N. resolutions and international agreements protecting civilians in wartime.

In the face of the Iranian shelling, Iraq was forced to retaliate and take similar measures by shelling a number of Iranian cities. This indiscriminate shelling of civilian areas on both sides can only bring more suffering and destruction to the Iraqis and the Iranians, but can never bring any result or achieve success for the Tehran regime.

It is time for the whole world to intervene in the Gulf situation and stop supplying Iran with weapons which it uses to prolong the war and sufferings. The international community should act now before more lives are lost.

Al Dustour: Very important visit

PRESIDENT HOSNI Mubarak arrives in Washington Saturday to start a very important visit to the United States. The talks which the president is scheduled to hold with president Reagan will revolve around the Middle East problem and ways to establish peace in the region.

The visit assumes special importance because President Mubarak carries with him an Arab view based on the acceptance of and the determination on the achievement of peace representing the majority of the Arabs and because the United States can play a basic role in the achievement of that peace.

No doubt all eyes will be directed to Washington over the coming few days in order to see how the Americans can benefit from the new situation and work diligently for establishing peace. The Washington talks will be a real test for President Reagan's declared intention and desire to help bring about peace.

So far, Washington has done nothing to couple its words with needs, and President Mubarak's visit offers the Reagan administration a golden chance to prove its good intentions.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Economic policies Arthur Laffer stands for

THREE WEEKS ago, we were about to have in Jordan as a guest the American most controversial economist Arthur B. Laffer, 44. The ideas and recommended policies of this prominent economist were given an extensive coverage in the American media, rarely given to any other contemporary economist. His fame culminated during the first years of Mr. Reagan's presidency, which put some of Mr. Laffer's policies, especially tax-cuts, into practice.

Among the most publicised ideas and policies which were aired by Arthur Laffer and met with either wide acceptance and enthusiasm or rejection and resentment, we shall cite the following:

1. A return to the gold standard and the convertibility of the dollar into gold at a fixed rate. The dread horror of any monetary system says Mr. Laffer is when a country's currency ends up being not worth the paper it is printed on. He advocates that such a step will guarantee a stable economic system with low-interest rates and low inflation. If the dollar is as good as gold, no one will like to own and hoard gold and its price will drop, and that will stop the unnecessary subsidy paid to South Africa and the Soviet Union, being the two major producers of gold.

2. Removal of the progressive income tax in favour of a flat rate tax. Acceleration works as a disincentive to success. Imposing instead a flat rate applicable to every kind of income, and let thousands of lawyers and accountants handling the internal revenue complicated returns go out of business! Flat tax means simplicity and encouragement for more work and production and profits, asserts Mr. Laffer.

3. Removal of the corporate profits tax in favour of value-added tax. "I would never tax corporations because of their profit," argues Mr. Laffer. "I would tax them on the use of precious natural resources — human being, coastlines, air, capital, labour. Value-added tax does not distort against success in the market-place," says Mr. Laffer.

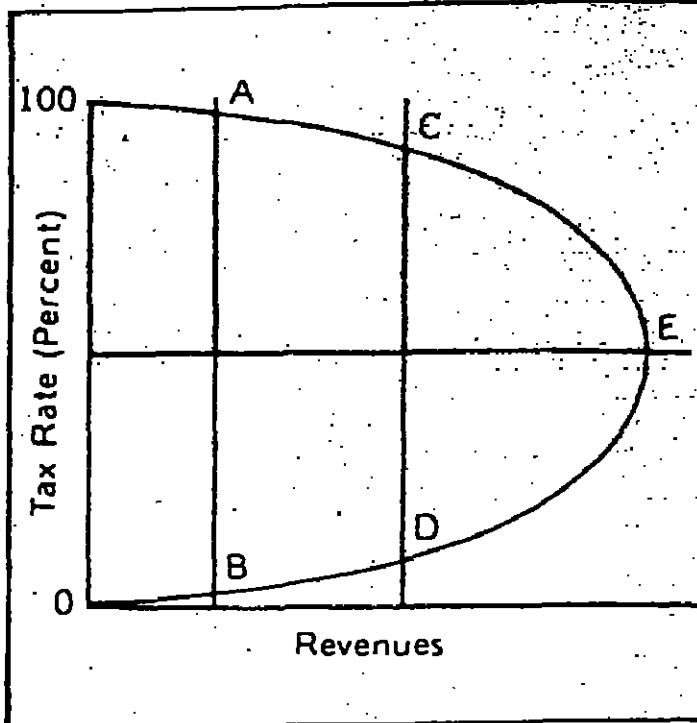
4. The most famous contribution of Mr. Laffer is Laffer's curve, which the economist developed in 1974. It holds that as tax rates rise from zero, revenues increase. But, at some point, if taxes are increased further, they discourage consumer spending and business investment, thus reducing revenues. Mr. Laffer believes that the United States and most European countries, except Switzerland and Germany, have already rounded the curve.

Point A (see chart) represents a very high tax rate and very low production. Point B represents a very low tax rate and very high production. Yet they both yield the same revenue to the government. The same is true of points C and D. The government finds that by further lowering the rate, say

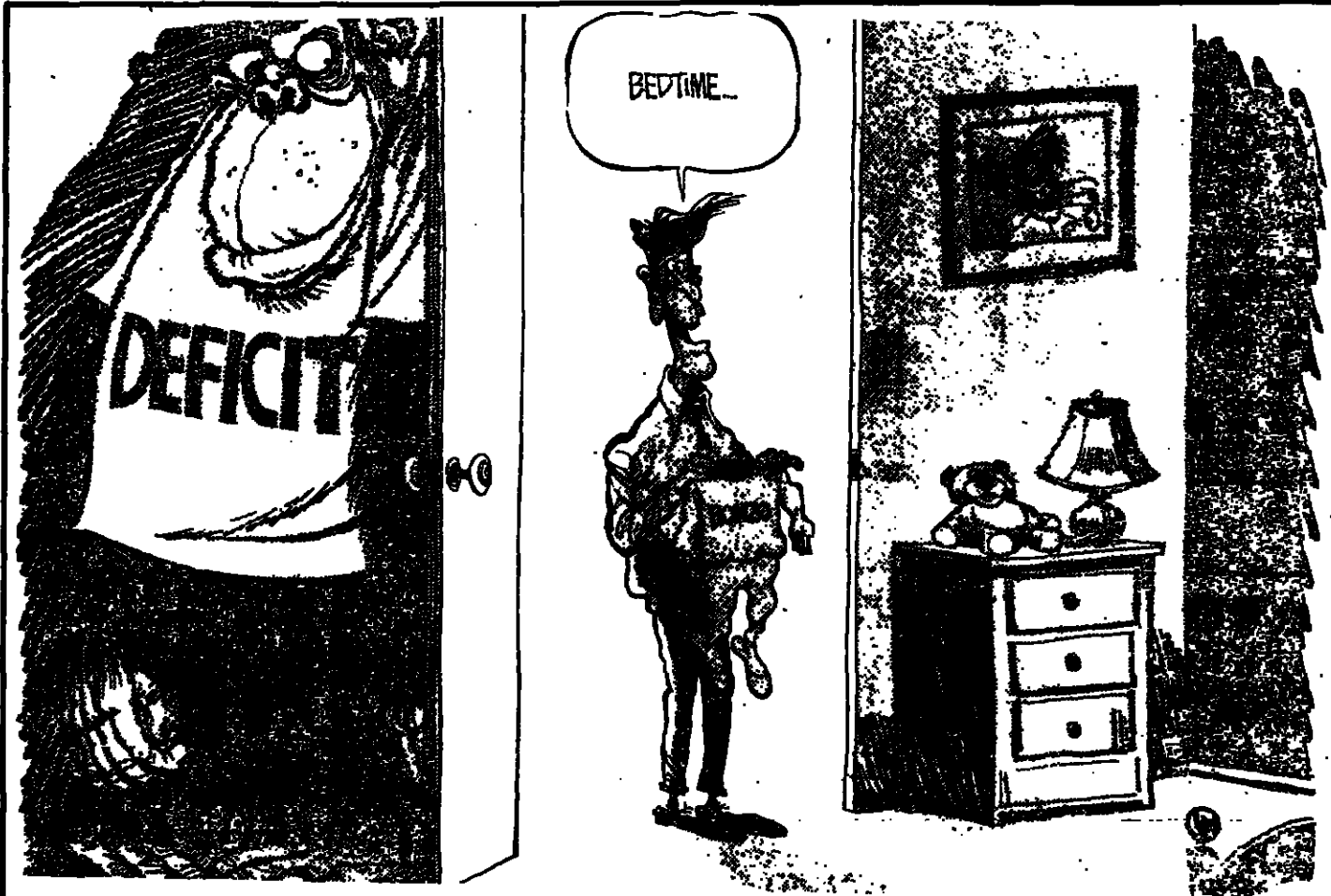
from point A to point C, revenues increase with the further expansion of output. And by raising the tax rate say from point B to point D, revenues also increase, by the same amount.

Revenues and productions are maximised at point E. If at point E, the government lowers the tax rate again, output will increase, but revenues will fall, and if at point E the tax rate is raised, both output and revenue will decline. The shaded area is the prohibitive range for government, where rates are unnecessarily high and can be reduced with gains in both output and revenue.

President Reagan is, no doubt, a firm believer in Mr. Laffer's teachings. He implemented the tax-cut, using the Laffer curve as a convincing tool. He is repeatedly flitting with the ideas of gold standard and flat tax, but apparently he is aware of the political impracticability and the hurdles that would block such revolutionary reforms.



The Laffer Curve: High tax rates, at point A, bring in the same revenue as low tax rates, at point B. However, the production level is much higher at point B. Revenues and production are maximised at point E, representing the optimal tax rate.



Reverberations from British coal strike could extend far into 1990s

By Ronald Thomson
 Reuter

LONDON — Social and political repercussions from Britain's year-long coal strike appear likely to extend into the 1990s, with managements sensing new power and trade unions seeking to rebuild unity in their shattered ranks.

As miners went grudgingly back to work and the country faced up to massive bills, commentators agreed that the dispute, over pit closures, would have a lasting effect on industrial relations in strike-prone Britain.

Issues at the forefront were not only industrial, however. The 51-week walkout raised questions about the role of the police, the courts, the media and the individual dissembler.

Miners' leader Arthur Scargill charged that his union had in content with an establishment conspiracy aimed at humbling men who were struggling only to preserve their livelihoods.

No one doubts that a major factor in crushing the strike was a huge mobilisation of police assigned to protect working miners from strikers picketing colliery gates in numbers forbidden by the law.

Nearly 1,400 officers were injured in picket line violence, according to official figures, but Mr. Scargill accused the police of unprovoked attacks on strikers. Almost 10,000 were arrested.

The National Council for Civil Liberties said it was the biggest and most sustained police mobilisation since the 1926 general strike. But Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called it "holding the line" against mob rule.

What seemed certain was that relations between police and pit workers in many mining communities had been damaged to an extent that would have been unbelievable just a year ago.

Striking miners were also bitter over the unprecedented involvement of the courts in an industrial dispute.

A series of High Court rulings banned mass picketing as intimidatory and made Mr. Scargill personally liable for actions taken in his union's name.

The assets of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), close to \$10 million, were seized by judicial order for defying the court.

Mr. Scargill accused the media, too, of presenting the dispute in a one-sided way. He said newspapers, radio and television regularly gave precedence to opinion and statistics emanating from the Conservative government and the state-run Coal Board.

The strike was never fully backed by union members, many of whom campaigned vainly for a national ballot before being ordered out.

About a quarter of the NUM's 186,000 members refused to join the walkout from the beginning and the figure rose to more than 50 per cent in the dying days of the stoppage.

Working miners, both individually and in groups, took on the mighty union in the courts and won legal backing for claims that a nation-wide strike was illegal.

Many mining villagers were torn apart by the dispute. Families were divided, old friends parted and the insulting word "scab" was daubed on the homes of strike-breakers. The legacy of hatred may well persist for generations.

Independent economists say the strike could cost the British taxpayer about three billion sterling (\$3.2 billion) in the short run but some 5.2 billion sterling (\$5.5 billion) when the overall impact on the national economy is felt.

The coal industry believes it has scored a triumph in Britain's longest and most expensive major strike. But organised labour, which failed to achieve a united front in support of the miners, is faced with a mammoth task in stopping the rot of division within its rank.

Jakarta fears Fretilin may escalate fight

By Peter Millership
 Reuter

LOSALOS, East Timor — Indonesia says Fretilin separatist guerrillas in East Timor are in bad shape and cannot fight on much longer, but officials fear they might turn to terror tactics against government targets.

Governor Mario Carrascao said local support, vital to success in a guerrilla war, had dwindled for Fretilin — the Leftist Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor — and they might launch a campaign of sabotage and assassination of officials.

Indonesian military commanders in the Eastern towns of Lospalos, Baucau and Viqueque told the first foreign journalists allowed into the former Portuguese colony for 18 months that Fretilin was short of food and ammunition and its leaders were split.

But a spokesman for Fretilin said in Lisbon that the anti-

Jakarta resistance remained strong and united despite a decade of Indonesian rule.

Abilio Araujo, one of many Fretilin exiles in Portugal, said last week: "The support of the people for Fretilin's armed resistance movement is growing."

But Armed Forces Commander Benny Murdani told Reuters recently that more than 7,000 troops were fighting 500 to 700 Fretilin rebels.

President Suharto annexed East Timor in 1976 after Fretilin gained the upper hand in a bloody civil war sparked by Portugal's decolonisation plans.

Foreign aid workers estimate 100,000 East Timorese, more than one seventh of the population, died in the years immediately after the conflict, mostly of disease and hunger. Military analysts say Indonesia has lost more than 1,800 troops.

Indonesia partly justifies its intervention by arguing that Fretilin was a Marxist movement and that Jakarta and its allies could not afford to see an Asian Cuba emerging in their midst.

Aiming to win the hearts and minds of the East Timorese, Mr. Suharto poured millions of dollars into projects to tempt the guerrillas out of the mountains by offering them a better life.

Former Fretilin members said life was harsh in the rugged mountain sanctuaries where guerrillas had virtually no medicine and a bad diet. There is a general amnesty for all guerrillas.

Mr. Carrascao said in an interview in Dili that Fretilin had lost a conventional war with Indonesia and guerrilla tactics had failed.

"The next possibility is terrorism ... I could see a terrorist system being used against development."

Accurate assessment of the claims of both sides is difficult in East Timor, which is closed to foreign visitors without special permission. The journalists were tailed by security men during their four-day visit.

In August, 1983, four Fretilin members emerged from the jungle during the visit of an Australian parliamentary delegation and handed the visitors a protest letter, much to the embarrassment of accompanying Indonesian officials.

Fretilin is strongest in the East, and Dili officials said some labourers were unwilling to work in certain areas. The government plans to build sugar factories, a dam and a new port in the region neglected by the Portuguese.

The journalists found no sign of the army in the eastern sector. When asked where the troops and their bases were, officials pointed up to the mountains but declined requests to fly there saying the cloud base was too low.

The mountainous jungle of East Timor is ideal territory for guerrillas. Australian commandos in World War II lived there for years eluding Japanese patrols.

One army intelligence official in Jakarta said hard-core Fretilin could live on undiscovered in the dense rainforest.

Regional elections signal out two West German future recipes

By Mark Wood
 Reuter

BONN — Two rising political stars offering radically different recipes for West Germany's future are fighting regional elections on Sunday and victory could mark each of them out for a future party leadership role.

In West Berlin, ruling Christian Democrat (CDU) Mayor Eberhard Diepgen, 43, is seen by supporters as symbolising a new generation of conservatives skilled in applying business techniques to boost investment and create jobs.

In the Saarland, opposition Social Democrat (SPD) leader Oskar Lafontaine, 41, rejects almost all the values the Berliener stands for.

He believes a triumph in the Saarland will open the way for his crusade to turn the SPD into a left-wing force dedicated to pulling West Germany out of NATO's military structure and forging a new economic doctrine opposed to industrial growth.

Opinion polls predict both men will see their parties emerge as the largest blocks in their regional assemblies on Sunday. But doubts remain whether either of them will secure enough seats to form a stable majority government.

West German political commentators believe a resounding electoral success would put each of them on course to assume growing influence within his own party on a national level.

"In the case of Lafontaine, that could lead to a dramatic polarisation of West German politics and an end to the consensus on major issues which has prevailed between the major parties since the war," one Western diplomat commented.

Mr. Diepgen, tall and boyish looking, calls himself a pragmatic liberal-conservative and finds Mr. Lafontaine's ideas abhorrent. "A mixture of naivety and utopia, dangerous naivety," was his verdict in an interview with Reuters.

Mr. Diepgen took office a year ago to scorn from opponents and much of the West German press, which dubbed him a colourless bureaucrat and predicted he would lose votes for the CDU.

But 12 months later even his critics have grudging praise for his government's success in reversing West Berlin's economic decline and a spiralling unemployment rate by luring dozens of new high-technology companies to the city.

He is also credited with generating a new spirit of optimism in the isolated city, deep inside East Germany, by organising a summer of cultural festivities which pulled in a record number of tourists.

"Things were going on in Berlin and the hotels were full. People

began talking about the city in a positive sense again, not just about street fights," he said in reference to battles between squatters and police in the early 1980s.

Mr. Lafontaine, who is mayor of the steel town of Saarbrücken, has paid Mr. Diepgen the compliment of borrowing his ideas for encouraging small businesses and investment in a bid to create jobs in the city.

But that is the limit of the common ground between the two city rulers.

Dubbed by opponents the "Ayatollah of the Saar", Mr. Lafontaine told Reuters in an interview he was convinced the present economic and political order was heading for collapse and said the SPD should spearhead radical social change.

He calls his new ideology "ecologicalism" and says it would place priority on protecting the environment and cutting back large-scale industrial production.

Such ideas have inevitably caused fierce controversy at home but Mr. Lafontaine has caused even greater alarm among Bonn's allies with his anti-nuclear and anti-NATO policies. Western diplomats say.

The flamboyant orator, known for bringing his audiences to their feet, wants all allied troops and U.S. nuclear forces out of the country and West Germany to follow France in pulling out of NATO's integrated military structure.

"I consider it unacceptable that the president of a foreign country can fire nuclear weapons from our territory," he said.

Asked how he thought the United States would react to such radical demands from a Bonn government, he replied with a smile: "If the Americans have the idea they were born to rule the world there could be some irritation. But if they have any idea what partnership is there should be no problem."

Mr. Lafontaine says the pragmatists typified by former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt have driven away young voters from the SPD and its only hope of survival is to accept his ideas.

He evidently has the support of party Chairman Willy Brandt, another former chancellor and a close friend who has regularly appeared with him at election rallies, and many of the country's intellectuals.

Most West German commentators believe electoral defeat for Mr. Lafontaine or Mr. Diepgen on Sunday could mean an irrevocable setback to their longer-term career hopes. Victory could put their names firmly on the political map for years to come.

LETTERS

Less complaint, more facts

Dear Editor:

IT WAS with great dismay that I read UNRWA's refutation of charges made by Fakhri Kawar in a guest column of the Jordan Times.

Most of us are aware that controversies have been a perennial feature of all UNRWA activities ever since its inception and let us not kid ourselves that the U.N. agency has been performing its assigned tasks to the letter.

However, what do we, the readers, know what exactly is going on in the workings of the agency? Pathetically, very little. If the UNRWA chiefs are concerned about unwarranted criticism and attacks by the people in Jordan, the country most affected by the lingering Palestinian problem, they should put the record straight by giving us facts, rather than responding frantically to criticism as and when it arises.

Fawzi Arar,
 Amman

Dresden opera house takes up where it left off 40 years ago

By Guenter de Thier

At a conservative estimate, 35,000 people died during and immediately after Western allied bombers obliterated the city of Dresden in waves on Feb. 13 and 14, 1945. Up until that point, the city of more than 600,000 had barely been touched by allied bombs and few believed that it would be a serious target. It had little military significance and was the home of so many architectural and art treasures. They were wrong. Last month, on Feb. 13, the 40th anniversary of the destruction was marked by ceremonies including a mass rally in front of the rebuilt Semper Opera House, which had been destroyed in the war. In the evening, the opera house, named after its 19th century architect, Gottfried Semper, reopened after 40 years of silence with a gala performance of Karl Maria von Weber's "Der Freischütz". On Aug. 31, 1944, "Der Freischütz" had been performed to a wartime audience. It was the last production of any sort in the building. Shortly afterwards, all theatres in the country were closed because of the war. And then the bombs came. Guests for last month's symbolic reopening, which was televised live in both East and West Germany, included former Bonn Chancellor Helmut Schmidt; East German party leader Erich Honecker; and the Lord Mayor of the British city of Coventry, Walter Brandish. Coventry was heavily damaged by German bombers in 1940. Since 1956, it and Dresden have been twin cities.

AN ESTIMATED 35,000 victims of the bombing raids 40 years ago are remembered on a stone memorial in a Dresden cemetery.

The allied air raids destroyed an area of 15 square kilometres, reducing one of the most beautiful cities in Europe to rubble.

There were over a million people in Dresden when the bombs fell: the 620,000 Dresdners and nearly 400,000 refugees from the east who sought safety in the city.

Dresden had for some reason hardly been hit in Allied air raids

and local people had come to feel the city, with its art treasures, might be spared destruction.

It burnt and smouldered for three days, and phosphorus bombs transformed even the River Elbe into a sheet of flames.

Of its 200,000 homes 75,000 were totally destroyed and over 100,000 damaged.

No-one will ever know for sure how many people died in the flames. Many were buried under the ruins or charred beyond identification in the flames, and no

records of the refugees were kept.

The city's present Oberbürgermeister, Gerhard Schill, says there were over 35,000 victims. Some historians say there were as many as 200,000 deaths.

In the "Altstadt" and the city centre there were certainly 18 million cubic metres of rubble, including such architectural jewels as the Zwinger, the Semper Opera House, the Residenz, or palace of the kings of Saxony, and Dresden's baroque churches.

After the war the town planners debated whether the city should be rebuilt at all in its previous location. Architects and custodians of historic monuments differed widely on how to set about the task of reconstruction. Some favoured rebuilding only a few historic monuments and otherwise providing high-rise housing for the people.

Another school of thought favoured rebuilding the city like a museum, with its old buildings and narrow streets as depicted by local painter Bernardo Belotto.

Eventually a compromise was reached: a combination of old and new. While preserving historic traditions an "active social life" was to be ensured, as the Oberbürgermeister puts it.

Herr Schill, a member of the ruling Socialist Unity Party, feels the character of the city has changed

substantially "under socialist conditions."

Many historic monuments have been rebuilt over the past 40 years. They include the Zwinger, the Kreuzkirche and the Johanneum with its Meissen china tiles.

On the 40th anniversary of the destruction of old Dresden the Semper Opera House was reopened. Restorers will now concentrate on the Residenz and on the baroque town houses on Neumarkt.

The Frauenkirche may also be rebuilt. It wasn't bombed; it collapsed three days later after being gutted by fire.

This is a new idea. The previous one was to leave the ruins standing as a war memorial along the lines of the Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtniskirche in Berlin. The first scaffolding has been erected to ensure there is no more damage to the ruins of the Residenz. When the palace has been rebuilt it will house many items that have been kept in storage or housed elsewhere for decades. The city was so badly hit that post-war reconstruction concentrated on jobs and housing for the people. Historic reconstruction would have cost a fortune, and the German Democratic Republic (GDR) still has difficulty in raising cash in the quantities needed. Asked how

much has so far been spent on reconstruction, Herr Schill answers evasively. Questions of this kind are not readily answered in the GDR.

Reconstruction has been delayed by many Dresden building workers being drafted to Berlin to rebuild the GDR capital.

Are Dresdners envious of the Berliners, who have been given priority in the allocation of funds for reconstruction?

Again, Herr Schill hedges. The capital, he says, is the capital and must be treated accordingly: "We are aware of the necessity."

He is equally evasive on whether Dresden is right in rebuilding its palace when the Imperial palace in Berlin was razed to the ground and not rebuilt.

That, he says, is a complicated question and it would be wrong to infer that the wrong decision had been taken in Berlin.

In Berlin the ruins of the Schloss were cleared to make way for the Marx-Engels-Platz and the Palast der Republik. Custodians of historic monuments always wanted to preserve everything.

A mass rally was held on the 40th anniversary, attended by GDR leader Erich Honecker and accompanied by many cultural events other than the inauguration of the rebuilt Semper Opera House.

The anniversary, Herr Schill says, was a day on which to honour the memory of the victims. It was also a powerful demonstration for peace and disarmament and the achievements of socialist society.

There was a performance of the Dresden Requiem by the Irish composer Cormac O'Duffy last heard in Coventry Cathedral in 1981.

The Dresden Philharmonic Orchestra gave a memorial concert and the famous church choir sang in the Kreuzkirche.

There were visitors from Coventry, which the Germans bombed in 1940 and with which Dresden is twinned.

Visitors also included RAF bomber command pilots and crews who took part in the air raids. Dresden, the mayor said, would welcome them if they had the right attitude towards peace.

But he studiously avoided answering at all the crucial question whether the bombing of Dresden was a war crime. He said he wasn't a lawyer but the end of the war was certainly near by February 1945, with the Red Army only 50 kilometres from the city.

Dresden had no military significance either, so its barbaric destruction had been unnecessary in military terms — Saarbrücker Zeitung.



Dresden will never be bombed

Rugged individualism, values of the 'right' in U.S. called 'cancerous'

By Anne C. Roark

LOS ANGELES — The rugged self-reliance Americans hold so dear, personified by John Wayne and the American cowboy and championed by President Ronald Reagan and politicians of the right, has turned "cancerous," rendering much of the country's middle class incapable of a commitment to their most basic institutions — marriage, family, religion and politics — according to a study published by the University of California Press.

The project, five years in the making, was conducted by Robert N. Bellah, an eminent Berkeley, California, sociologist, and four other scholars representing the fields of sociology, theology and philosophy. Their work will be published in a 355-page book cal-

led "Habits of the Heart," scheduled to be released in late March.

Although few scholars or politicians have yet to see the book, those who know of it consider it part of an emerging and highly controversial national debate on the role of ethics and values in American society. And those who have actually read advanced copies of the book are touting it as a "benchmark" study of the 1980s American character and the first in a series of "liberal counterattacks" against the neo-conservative movement that has dominated politics in recent years.

Both the title of the book and the questions raised in the project are based on a 150-year-old study, called "Democracy in America," by the French historian, Alexis de Tocqueville. In taking the "moral

pulse" of America in the 1830s, Mr. Tocqueville found the same erosive private individualism that Mr. Bellah and his colleagues found in the 1980s. "Only it is worse today," Mr. Bellah said.

In interviewing white, middle-class Americans, Mr. Bellah and his colleagues found that many people in the United States have been swept away by "radical individualism," a sense that, as one psychotherapist they interviewed put it, "in the end you're really alone, and you really have to answer to yourself."

"We are concerned," Mr. Bellah and his colleagues said in the study, "that this individualism may have grown cancerous, that it may be threatening the survival of freedom itself."

That is why politics has become so "morally unsavory" to many Americans and "the politician" is held in such low regard, Mr. Bellah explained in a recent interview. "People assume that, if you are in the game of politics, you are not playing fairly. You are not getting involved because you are a

good citizen. You are not seeking what is best for the community. You are there for reasons of utility. You are after your own interests."

Mr. Bellah did note that "there is a growing nostalgia for the small town, a lot of talk about traditional values." But, he added, "a lot of it is swiftly shallow and a bit phony. For the most part, people simply do not have the language to talk about those concerns. We hope the book at least will begin that discussion again."

Among the handful of scholars who have read the book, the discussion certainly has begun. Daniel Bell, a professor of social science at Harvard University, said that for some years now Americans "have been hearing from the intellectuals on the right, the

conservatives" who have provided much of the underpinnings of the Reagan administration's emphasis on the "individuals and their right to do their own thing, unencumbered by government."

"The Bellah study and others move in the direction of asking what it means to be part of a community," Mr. Bell said. In a written comment prepared for the publisher, Mr. Bell concluded that the study would become "the contemporary benchmark from which to look back and to look forward, in the continuing inquiry about American culture."

Working with Mr. Bellah on the project were four younger scholars, three of whom had been students of his at Berkeley or Harvard.

Ann Swidler, who now teaches

sociology at Stanford, conducted interviews about love and marriage in several suburban neighborhoods in and around San Jose, California, and the high-technology area of Silicon Valley.

Steven M. Tipton, an associate professor at the Chandler School of Theology at Emory University, interviewed therapists and psychiatrists in the South and the San Francisco Bay area.

Richard Madsen, a sociologist at the University of California at San Diego, studied local politics and volunteer organizations in a small town near Boston and a suburban area near San Diego.

William W. Sullivan, a philosophy professor at La Salle College in Philadelphia, studied two organizations that emerged from the political movement of the

1960s, the Institute for the Study of Civic Values in Philadelphia and the Campaign for Economic Democracy in Santa Monica, California.

The project was financed by the Ford, Rockefeller and Guggenheim Foundations and the National Endowment for the Humanities, which has given another grant to the project to continue the project's study.

That study will follow a number of other similar studies on American ethics that are now being conducted by scholars around the United States and financed by major foundations — Los Angeles Times.

Ava Gardner — a 'gentleman' offers her thoughts on television, 'Dallas' and others

By Peter W. Kaplan

NEW YORK — The barefoot contessa wore rubber thongs. She walked over the cream carpet at the Waldorf Towers, which was the same shade of cream as her calves. In a pair of tight watermelon-pink tuxedo slacks. Above the slacks was a cherry-colored sweatshirt with a sequined letter A over one breast, and above the red sweatshirt was a hot-pink scarf, above which was the face of Ava Gardner.

Gardner's face will be appearing in two television projects in the United States, the first two she has ever done. The first is on the evening serial "Knots Landing" on CBS, in which she will play one of the sleek villainous women who seem to do so much for television ratings. The second is "A.D.," an NBC mini-series about early Christian zealots that is to run at the end of March.

"Oh, television," Gardner said, smiling and showing three dimples (one in the chin, two in the cheeks). "It's awfully small, isn't it? Tatty. Except for J.R., he's not small." Gardner said she loved "Dallas." "I met J.R. last week," she said, "and I was just as excited as I was the first time I met Clark Gable."

With her green eyes and shaken-out auburn hair, Gardner did not look so very different from the way she looked in "The Barbeton Contessa," "On the Beach" and "Mogambo." She sat with a bottle of spring water and chain-smoked, talking in a low voice that carried tones of North Carolina, where she was born, and of London, where she lives.

"He was sweet, Clark, and very big and masculine with lots of personality. I used to see him around the MGM lot, and of course I had a crush on him. I worked with him in 'The Hucksters' and I had to sing a song to him. Clark used to walk off a set every day at five — Boom! he was gone — but this day he stayed so I could sing to him instead of to some prop man. He straddled a chair and sat just off-camera, and every once in a while I'd think, 'It's Clark Gable!' and I'd go to pieces."

The next time she worked with Gable was on "Mogambo," in Africa, and her director was John Ford. "Adored him. Adored him!" she said of Ford. "The meanest man on earth. Thoroughly evil. We started off with such a battle. He didn't want me at all.



Ava Gardner as Agrippina in "A.D."

He wanted Maureen O'Hara, and he let it be known.

"Grace Kelly was in the picture, and he adored her. But he was very cold to me. Before shooting, he called me in to see him. Didn't even look at me. Told me, 'You're going to be over-dressed.' Just cold, and that was all. So I went back to my room and talked it over with Frank." She was married to Frank Sinatra at the time and he had flown to Africa with her for the shooting.

"So I told Frank, 'I'm going to talk to Ford.' I stomped in and I said, 'I'm just as Irish and mean as you are. I'm not going to take this. I'm sorry if you don't like me — I'll go home.' And he just looked up at me as if he didn't know what I was talking about and said: 'I don't know what you mean. Who's been rude to you?'"

She fought with some of the important people in Hollywood and with the biggest power of all: her studio, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. "Listen, honey," she said, "I was never really an actress. Not really. None of us kids that came from MGM were. We were just good to look at."

Born in 1922, she left North Carolina after a studio messenger saw her picture in a New York photographic studio window, passed himself off as an agent and sent it to MGM. The studio asked

her to do a screen test, and Ava Gardner joined the studio variety with Lana Turner, Judy Garland, Van Johnson and Mickey Rooney, who became Gardner's first husband in 1941.

"I was a terrified little girl. It was killing at MGM. They threatened you that if you didn't do what they said, they would ruin your career. And they could do it. When I appeared for Henry Wallace when he ran for president in 1948, Louis B. Mayer called me in and told me I had to stop."

For 17 years, Gardner stayed at MGM, defying its orders on projects, sometimes doing her best work when she was traded to other studios — as she was for Joseph L. Mankiewicz's "The Barbeton Contessa," in which she played a Spanish dancer who becomes a movie star as big as Ava Gardner. Mankiewicz, she said, pointing to her head, was "cerebral." Besides him, she worked with some of the best directors in Hollywood: Ford, John Huston and George Cukor.

She married three times: Rooney, Sinatra and the bandleader-clarinetist Artie Shaw. Her marriage to Sinatra became the legendary one, through the pain he said he suffered. Their love affair, many said, led to the anguished resonance of his classic albums of the 1950s.

"Oh, no, no," Gardner said. "He had just done a film he was

proud of — "From Here to Eternity" — he had his strength back and all of his talent."

About 7:30 p.m., Gardner exchanged her water for a scotch and said she had thought she was pretty good in "The Night of the Iguana," in which she was directed by her friend and favorite director, Huston. "And then I saw it," she said, "and I was so embarrassed. There wasn't one true move in it: it was false and fidgety."

She said she was having "a hell of a time" on another Huston picture, "The Bible," and was saved by the director. "Awwright kid," she said, doing a gravelly imitation of Huston's voice. "And he just held my hand and said, 'Awwright.' And then he asked me if I was ready to go back, and I said I was. That's how John Huston directs."

"Knots Landing," she said, made her "a buck" playing "a rather nasty lady." She made a terrible face. "First of all, I look so bad. I mean I'm not terribly vain, but I don't like to look like a monster." She brushed out her hair and smiled. "And it's so fast."

"Television is a lovely thing for people of my age to watch, but it's for young people to make. The kids were very nice to me."

She sipped her scotch. She remembered a story about Cukor. "George was in Russia, making something called 'The Bluebird,' and I came over to help him. We had been friends for years, and they didn't have much money. So I said I would work for free."

"Well, it was hell. It probably hastened his death. It was very, very difficult. And one day we were doing a scene, and George suddenly turned nasty, as I'd seen him get nasty to other people. He was a wonderful man but he could be extremely rude. When I was done, I left, and he didn't say good-bye."

"Well, months and months went by, and we didn't speak. Then one day I saw one of his old movies with Katharine Hepburn and Spencer Tracy, where she's an athlete. 'Pat and Mike.' It was wonderful, and I wrote him a telegram that said, 'They don't make 'em like that anymore.' And he wrote me a telegram back, and it said, 'They don't make 'em like you anymore, Ava.'"

"You know, George Cukor said the nicest thing that's ever been said about me: 'Ava,' he told an interviewer 'is a gentleman.'"

'The Armageddon Network' tells a great deal

By Michael Saba

Michael Saba's book, "The Armageddon Network" reads like a spy novel.

A bizarre twist of fate in March 1978 triggered Mr. Saba's investigation of "the network." He had settled down over a cup of coffee in the coffee shop of a Washington D.C. hotel to await a prospective client. Though Mr. Saba's client never showed, his life for the ensuing seven years was completely altered by the events of that morning.

As he waited, Mr. Saba overheard the men at an adjacent table discussing strategies to "influence U.S. policy in favour of Israel." Three men were Israeli government officials, and the fourth was Senate Foreign Relations Committee staffer Stephen Bryen.

Sensing the discussion was significant, Mr. Saba made notes. After the men had left, he reconstructed the details of the meeting and compiled a summary in an affidavit.

BOOK REVIEW

He told them not to try to justify retention of the West Bank on historical or religious grounds, but suggested instead "the West Bank can be gained on security grounds." Mr. Bryen also offered the Israelis a "Pentagon document on bases."

Mr. Saba presented his affidavit to the Justice Department, and its lawyers attempted to discover whether Mr. Bryen had violated espionage laws or the Foreign

Agents Registration Act.

Mr. Saba's book details the FBI and Justice Department lawyers' investigation of Mr. Bryen in which they learned that he had access to sensitive Defence Department documents and that he had regular contact with Israeli officials. Yet Mr. Bryen avoided prosecution, largely through the influential connections of his attorney Nathan Lewin, whose contacts included Assistant Attorney General Philip B. Heymann, head of the Justice Department Criminal Division which was investigating Mr. Bryen.

Despite Justice Department staff recommendations that the Bryen case be brought before a grand jury, Mr. Heymann dropped the investigation.

Mr. Saba's research turned up Mr. Bryen's close associate Richard Perle, who served on the negotiating team at the January 1985 Arms Control talks in Geneva. Early in their careers, they had worked together as staffers on the Senate Foreign Relations

Committee, and later they rose to positions of power in the Defence Department.

As assistant secretary of defence under Mr. Reagan, Mr. Perle fought bloody turf battles with other bureaucrats in the Defence, State and Commerce departments for control of high-technology transfers from the U.S. to other countries. Mr. Perle brought Mr. Bryen on as deputy assistant secretary of defence, and together they affected significant policy changes in high-tech transfers.

Though Mr. Saba emphasises that the network is not centrally directed it has a great potential for adverse impact on U.S. policy in the Middle East and will exacerbate an already tense situation.

Michael Saba is president of the Attiyeh Foundation, a Washington-based organisation that promotes U.S.-Arab cultural exchange. He is also a member of ADC's national advisory committee and has served as the executive director of NAAA — ADC Times.



FIFTEEN JUMBO YEARS: On Jan. 21, 1970 the first Boeing 747 revenue flight was operated by Pan Am. Since then there have been 45 airframe and engine combinations and today Boeing offers 10 variants of the famous jumbo — five passenger, three passenger/freight combinations and two all-cargo.

Since that first flight over 600 jumbos have been delivered to 70 airlines including most major Arab ones. 550 million passengers have been carried, 8,000 million miles have been flown with 16 million hours of flying.

The 747 has been steadily improved upon. Its range today can be over 6,000 miles, its fuel capacity increased to over 55,000 U.S. gallons, its engine power has been boosted by over 30 per cent since the early engines, and its passenger capacity can now be over 600 people. It boasts a 25 per cent reduction in fuel used per seat compared to the first model.

The latest version is the -300 series with the stretched upper deck which allows 69 economy seats upstairs and an aircraft total of up to 600 passengers. Despite this, the big side bins almost double the bag storage in the cabin available for economy passengers.

Strangely, the extended upper deck has improved the aerodynamics of the 747 so that it is now about 5 per cent faster — and it uses 9 per cent less fuel per passenger.

Studies indicate there is no technological limit to future aircraft size, although practical limits — such as airport terminal capabilities — would have to be considered. Technology is continually updated. The 747 today is capable of Category III all-weather landings, just as are the new Boeing 757 and 767 aircraft.

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English, Scottish Cup holders gain late draws

Manchester United secures F.A. Cup semifinal berth

LONDON (R) — Everton, the holders of the Football Association (F.A.) Cup, and Aberdeen, winners of the Scottish Cup for the past three years, both grabbed late draws in the quarter-finals of this year's competition Saturday.

League leaders Everton forced a 2-2 draw with Ipswich thanks to an 85th minute effort from central defender Derek Mountfield, while Aberdeen's Erick Black was responsible for his side's 1-1 survival at Hearts.

Manchester United, like Everton, kept alive their hopes of completing an English League and Cup double by beating illness-afflicted West Ham 4-2 at Old Trafford thanks to a hat-trick by teenage northern Ireland striker Norman Whiteside.

Third division Barnsley play Liverpool Sunday while Luton will now play another third division side Millwall in the last quarter-final tie after beating last year's losing finalists Watford 1-0 Saturday in a fifth round second replay.

Ipswich, playing their third cup tie this week, fell behind to a Kevin Sheedy free kick in the sixth minute but fought back to take a surprise 2-1 lead at halftime with goals from Kevin Wilson and Romeo Zondervan.

But Mountfield's late strike, after Ipswich's Steve McCall had been sent off, means Everton are still on course for their third appearance in a final in two years.

Manchester United played five forwards against West Ham and this attacking attitude paid dividends in a thrilling game.

Welsh striker Mark Hughes opened the scoring for United but an own goal by Graeme Hogg made it 1-1.

Then Whiteside, who has not been able to gain a regular place in the United side recently, took a hand scoring one goal before halftime and completing a hat-trick with an 87th minute penalty.

West Ham, who had lost a clutch of key players because of influenza, scored a late consolation goal through Paul Allen, the youngest player ever to appear in an F.A. Cup final.

Luton and Watford had fought out two draws already this week but Luton-born Wayne Turner guaranteed his side a quarter final berth with a fine 57th minute goal at Kenilworth Road.

In the first division sixth-placed Arsenal could not take advantage of the absence of Everton and United, drawing, 0-0 at Sunderland, but Southampton jumped to fourth place after beating Chelsea 2-0 at Stamford Bridge.

Celtic's Maurice Johnston, who played for Watford in last year's F.A. Cup final against Everton,

appeared to have booked his new side a semifinal place after scoring in the 67th minute against Dundee.

But an equaliser five minutes later by John Brown meant the sides will have to play again next week.

Dundee United, who have never won the Scottish Cup, took a healthy step towards the final when they won 4-1 at St. Mirren while Motherwell achieved a similar result at home to Forfar.

In the English first division Arsenal wasted a series of scoring chances allowing Sunderland to hang on for a draw which takes them five points clear of the relegation zone.

Arsenal, in sixth place, were leapfrogged by Southampton who completed a dismal week for Chelsea, knocked out of the League Cup semifinal by Sunderland in midweek, thanks to goals from England international David Armstrong and Danny Wallace. Sheffield Wednesday slumped 3-1 at Leicester for whom Gary Lineker scored to keep up his record of one goal every two games. Wednesday are now one point behind Arsenal with Nottingham Forest, who drew 0-0 with Newcastle.

W.Germany heads for clash with U.S. in Davis Cup

SINDELFINGEN, West Germany (R) — West Germany took an unbeatable 3-0 lead over Spain by winning the doubles in their Davis Cup world group tennis tie Saturday to go through to a second round clash with the United States.

But after winning both of Friday's singles, West Germany found Spain in no mood to surrender easily.

Boris Becker and Andreas Maurer had to come from behind before winning a five-set match with Sergio Casal and Emilio Sanchez 4-6, 6-3, 1-6, 6-4, 6-3.

Becker, the exciting 17-year-old who on his Davis Cup debut Friday scored an impressive straight sets win.

Mandlikova stuns Navratilova

PRINCETON, New Jersey (R) — Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia crushed world number one Martina Navratilova in their second set Friday night to gain the finals of the \$150,000 U.S. National Women's Indoor Tennis Championships.

Mandlikova dropped only 10 points in an 18-minute second set as she handed Navratilova her second defeat of the year with a stunning 7-6 (7-4), 6-0 upset victory.

Mandlikova's 75-minute triumph was her fifth in 18 meetings with Navratilova, the tournament defending champion.

Mandlikova's opponent in Saturday's final will be Sweden's number one, Catarina Lindqvist.

In an earlier semifinal match, Lindqvist beat Catherine Tanvier, France's number one player, 6-1, 6-4 in 63 minutes.

Navratilova said she could not believe her poor effort in the second set.

"I couldn't believe it, but my heart wasn't there," said Navratilova, who lost only two matches in 1984, one of them to Mandlikova.

Navratilova said: "I was frustrated in not being able to convert so many break points in the first set. Six months ago I would have been able to stay in but this time I didn't have it in me to keep fighting."

Mandlikova said she sensed that Navratilova was ripe for an upset when the Czechoslovakian-born U.S. citizen failed to crunch her volleys with the usual authority.

Mandlikova, whom Navratilova described as "flying and floating" in the latter stages of the match, stroked two spectacular volley winners while hurtling through the air to head-first landings on the court.

Both players agreed that the second set was the best one that Mandlikova had ever played against Navratilova in their series, which dates back to 1980.

"I'm not trying to think about becoming the number one player," said Mandlikova, who upset

number two ranked Chris Evert Lloyd last week. "I am just trying to be happy and win a lot of money."

Navratilova has a 19-2 record this year following seasons of 90-3 in 1982, 86-1 in 1983 and 78-2 in 1984.

Mandlikova, the 1981 French Open champion, has not lost a set here. She has beaten Marcela Skuherska of Czechoslovakia, American Alycia Moulton and Sylvia Hanika of West Germany.

In the world rankings this week, Mandlikova was third and Lindqvist 15th. Mandlikova leads their series 2-1 but Lindqvist, 21, won their last meeting, in January.

Lindqvist, who upset second-seeded Wendy Turnbull of Australia in the quarterfinals, controlled Tanvier's heavy topspin shots by taking her returns early.

"I had to take the ball on the rise to keep her from getting to the net quickly," Lindqvist said.

The winner of the final will take home \$30,000. The runnerup will receive \$15,000.

Italian Formula One race threatened

ROME (AP) — The Italian Formula One Grand Prix, planned for the streets of this city where Ben Hur once raced chariots, has thrown Rome's local government into turmoil shortly before elections.

Communist Mayor Ugo Vetere's early support for the Grand Prix has politically isolated him and turned the race into a live political issue for the May elections.

Added to the 1985 Formula One Championship last year, the Italian Grand Prix is scheduled to take place on Oct. 13 in the streets of Rome's Eur suburb — a grandiose architectural project built by dictator Benito Mussolini to display the achievements of fascism.

From the start, Vetere supported the race, calling it "one of the sensations of our age, which Rome must experience."

But as opposition parties, ecologists, local businessmen and residents and even members of his own party unite in opposition to the race, Vetere has been forced to continually put off the city council's vote on whether to hold the event.

Opponents of the Grand Prix argue that the race would seriously damage the local environment, divert vital city resources from other more pressing projects and close down Eur for more than a month.

One prominent critic is Vetere's own assistant mayor, socialist Pierluigi Severi. "Why waste resources on a blaze without a future when we could invest them in improving Vallelunga," he said recently in reference to the Roman racetrack which has twice hosted world championship Grand Prix races.

Opponents also received support from an unexpected quarter when Ettore Massaccesi, the president of the Italian car manufacturer Alfa Romeo, came out

against the race.

"I've too much respect for a well-cared for complex like Eur to see it used in this way and I believe that all of the city will suffer if an important area is closed down for a long time," he said.

But the organisers have fought back, and flooded the mayor's office with plans to prove the viability of the project.

They deny that Eur will be closed for 30 days and claim that a week will be sufficient time to install the equipment, grandstands and guardrails needed for a Grand Prix.

"Eur will have to be closed for only six hours a day. And we intend to construct two footbridges over the track for pedestrians," said Maurizio Flammini, an engineer.

American Taftalis beats world indoor shot put champion

KOBE, Japan (R) — Greg Taftalis, a carpenter from San Francisco, threw 20.62 metres in the men's shot put to beat world indoor champion Remigius Machura of Czechoslovakia by 0.03 metres in an international athletics indoor meeting Saturday.

Taftalis, 26, was jubilant over his defeat of Machura, who won at the inaugural World Indoor Games in Paris in January with a mark of 21.22 metres.

Taftalis, who was only eighth in Paris with 18.93 metres, said he hoped to improve even more.

The United States dominated the men's competition winning seven of the 11 events, while East

Germany took six of the eight women's contests.

Among the winners were world record holder Marita Koch of East Germany, who won the women's 200 metres in 23.07 seconds, and world 100 metres champion Marlies Goch of East Germany, who won the women's 50 metres in 6.21 seconds.

In the men's event, Steve Scott of the United States won the 1,500 metres in three minutes 41.98 seconds and Willie Banks of the United States took the triple jump in 16.53 metres. American Larry Myricks won the men's long jump in 8.12 metres.

Disappointing performance for U.S. team in Cosford meet

COSFORD, England (AP) — James Mays, United States middle distance track runner, was disqualified after finishing first in the 800 metres in a men's indoor international against England Saturday.

There were further disappointments for the American team as sprint star Mel Lattany was beaten in the 60 metres and then suffered a recurrence of a leg muscle injury.

In the 800 metres the tall Mays breezed past England's Tony Morrell on the last bend to cross the line in 1 min. 50.50 secs. But track officials ruled that he broke from his lane too early on the first lap.

After Mays' disqualification, Morrell was judged to be the winner with England's Jonathan Bigg placed second and Butch Brown of the United States, third.

It was cruel luck for Mays, who had worked hard to pull back a 15 metre lead opened up by Morrell at the half way stage.

United States long jumper Jason Grimes, silver medalist in the World Championships in 1983, surprisingly was called on to prove his athletic ability soon after winning the long jump.

Lattany aggravated a leg injury after finishing second to England's European Indoor Champion Mike McFarlane in the 60 metres and pulled out of the 200 metres.

Lattany, the world's fastest sprinter over 100 metres outdoors last year, was timed at 6.70 behind McFarlane's 6.65. England's Lin-

coln Asquith finished third, ahead of Jeff Gold of the United States. In the 200 metres Grimes trailed in last as England swept to a 1-2 victory.

Adie Mafe, 200 metre finalist at last year's Olympics, and Todd Bennett, who last week posted a new world's best time indoors for the 400 metres, stormed away from Grimes and Brady Cram.

Mafe won in a new British indoor record of 21.05 secs, with Bennett second in 21.10, also inside the old mark. Krahn was third in 21.24 and Grimes was timed at 22.13.

Tonic Campbell, fifth in the Los Angeles 110 metres hurdles final, won the 60 metres hurdles for the American team, ahead of England's Jonathan Ridgeon. Jack Pierce stole third place for the United States team ahead of England's Hugh Teape.

Although Grimes won the long jump, his best leap of 7.67 metres was matched by England's Derek Brown.

The event was decided on the two athletes' second best leaps and Grimes' 7.62 beat Brown's 7.57.

In the 400 metres, Ken Lowery of the United States overtook England's Phil Brown on the final bend to win in 47.19.

Brown, a member of Britain's silver medal-winning 4x400 metre relay squad at Los Angeles, was second in 47.28. England's Roger Black took third place ahead of American Tony Darden.

E.Germany's Witt retains world figure skating title

TOKYO (R) — East Germany's Katarina Witt retained her world figure skating title Saturday with a sparkling display which pushed overnight leader Kira Ivanova of the Soviet Union into second place.

Witt, 19, swooped over the ice, performing four triple jumps to the strains of George Gershwin's "Embraceable You."

One of her jumps, the salchow, was repeated — contrary to the rules — and probably explained two low technical marks of 5.7 from the Hungarian and Finnish judges.

Witt's popular and well-deserved victory stopped a Soviet landslide. Earlier in the week the three other titles, those for the

men, the pairs and the dance, fell to Soviet skaters.

With stayed at the barrier after leaving the ice to watch the progress of third-placed Tiffany Chin of the U.S.

Chin, 17, dressed in pink, like Witt, pulled out two triples but then fell on a double axel, which virtually sealed her fate. Her performance was not enough to over-throw Ivanova who had reeled off three triple jumps including the loop.

Afterwards Witt, who intends to compete next year, said: "I was so happy as soon as I had got through my first combination triple toe into double toe. I think this was the best performance I have ever done."

NOTICE

MULTI-MODE TRANSPORT PROJECT - JORDAN (Consultancy Services)

Aqaba Railway Corporation Jordan would be undertaking several development works under Technical Assistance Programme being financed by the World Bank. Prospective bidders are requested to submit prequalification papers for short listing in the following fields.

1. Training: Imparting training in Jordan, training of ARC personnel in railway facilities abroad preparation of course material.
2. Conduct of technical studies in field of personnel management, work-study etc.
3. Preparation of manuals and codes of practices for different railway discipline.
4. Inspection.

The bidders must be well-recognized railway administration having long experience in management and operation of railway system, training of personnel etc. or railway consultants specialised in these fields of activity. Complete documents containing comprehensive information on the experience in these areas of specialisation with supporting material about nature type and extent of experience in similar jobs done. Bio-data of key personnel involved etc. should be sent at the address indicated below so as to reach not later than April 1, 1985.

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Full prequalification details of sub-consultant, if any or joint venture partners (as the case may be) shall be included where applicable.

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Visa Applications, including visitors, students, businessmen

(Interviews with the consul will follow throughout the morning.)

Immigration Inquiries 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. only

NOTARIALS:
Drop-off Documents 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Sun.-Thurs.
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The above schedule will take effect Sunday, March 17, 1985.

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677420

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Cinema EL-HUSSEIN

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EXECUTION OF A DEAD MAN

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3 - 5:30-8

Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 25155

VISITING HOURS

(Colour)
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

Cinema OPERA

Tel: 22117

THE WOMAN IN RED

Abdali, behind ALIA offices

Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

1- BAGAWT, THE REBEL
2- FIVE WARRIORS IN HELL

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-7

Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH

(Colour)
Performances: 12-3-5:30-8

Philadelphia

ALAIN DELOW IN

POUR LA PEAU D'UN FLIC

Shows at 3:30 6 8:30 10:15

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Singapore assists hard hit business

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore Friday gave tax concessions to help businessmen ride their economic woes in a bumpy year where a growing number of companies are going broke.

But from Saturday motorists will feel the pinch following a budget announcement by Finance Minister Tony Tan which included substantial increases in road and petrol taxes and taxi fares.

Mr. Tan told parliament that the budget for the financial year beginning April 1 was aimed at increasing industrial and commercial infrastructural development with substantial funds also going to education and public housing.

Mr. Tan estimated a budget deficit of 4.47 billion Singapore dollars (\$2.24 billion) which would be met from borrowings and by drawing on reserves from government funds.

The government estimated revenue of 10.62 billion dollars (\$5.31 billion), part of which would come from a 10 per cent rise in petrol duty and a 15 per cent increase in road taxes.

To alleviate the burden on companies, Mr. Tan suspended collection of a two per cent payroll tax and halved the four per cent levy on wages, paid by employers to a fund for upgrading workers' skills.

Mr. Tan ignored requests from businessmen to lower the 40 per cent corporate tax which is almost double that of Singapore's economic rival, Hong Kong.

But he drew applause when he announced no further increases in

contributions to a compulsory old-age savings fund. Workers contribute 25 per cent of their wages while employers give a similar amount to the Central Provident Fund (CPF).

Mr. Tan said the government would not increase the pace of repatriation of foreign workers in line with a plea from industrialists faced with a labour shortage here.

But Mr. Tan said: "I expect 1985 to be a testing year as companies adjust their operations and trim their manpower to cope with a less buoyant economic development."

He said the local economy, which is forecast to grow by five to seven per cent compared to the 8.2 per cent last year, would be hurt by protectionism and instability in the world's financial system.

Petrochemical venture seeks help from Japan

Mr. Tan also called on Japan to provide better access to its markets for exports from Singapore's petrochemical complex, which suffered heavy losses in the first year of operation.

Speaking at the official opening of the billion dollar Singapore-Japanese joint venture, Mr. Tan said: "The problem of finding export markets will be a most challenging one, especially in the next few years."

"The complex will have to brace itself for some fairly difficult years in the initial stages," he added.

The Petrochemical Corporation of Singapore which operates the

main plant has announced a loss of 30 million Singapore dollars (\$15 million). Other companies in the complex have also suffered substantial losses, industry sources said.

The complex, the first of its kind in South East Asia, is expected to face more difficulties when products from new Saudi petrochemical plants reach the local market in the coming months, the sources said.

"The complex has little control over the supply and prices of its raw materials, namely, naphtha and Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG). It will have to contend with the vagaries of an unpredictable market," Mr. Tan said.

"I would like to urge the Japanese government to give serious consideration to the Singapore government's request to facilitate

the export of some of our polypropylene and low-density polyethylene to Japan."

The petrochemical project is the largest manufacturing venture with the Singapore government and a group of Japanese corporations headed by Sumitomo Chemical holding equal share.

Sumitomo Chairman Norishige Hasegawa, who has been the moving force behind the enterprise, also urged the governments of Singapore and Japan to provide necessary support.

"There may come a moment in the future when we must brace ourselves together to overcome whatever difficulties may fall on us," Mr. Hasegawa told the gathering which included Mr. Kazuo Sugiyama, adviser to the Japanese minister for international trade and industry.

Hollywood scriptwriters reach pact with studios

LOS ANGELES (R) — A tentative agreement was reached Friday in a three-day-old strike of film and television scriptwriters after a 14-hour, all-night bargaining session with studio producers, a spokeswoman for both sides said.

The strike of the 9,000-strong Writers Guild of America had already forced film and television studios to make some production cuts and the top-rated U.S. television programme, "The Cosby Show", starring comedian Bill Cosby, had cancelled three shows because of a shortage of scripts.

The spokeswoman, Ms. Barbara Brogliatti, said guild members would vote on the agreement on Monday evening.

A U.S. government mediator, Mr. Leonard Farrell, took part in the all-night bargaining session in Los Angeles.

No details of the tentative agreement the guild reached with the alliance of motion picture and television producers were announced. But the main stumbling block had been the scriptwriters' demand for a share of profits of pre-recorded video cassettes, a \$1 billion a year industry.

The producers said the share of 1.2 per cent of the profits sought by the writers should come from producers' revenues. The guild wanted its share to come from the far bigger profits of video cassette distributors.

The video cassette question had gone to arbitration before the tentative agreement was announced.

The guild had also asked for increased royalties, health benefits for freelance writers and more creative rights for writers in films.

The last scriptwriters' strike, in 1981, lasted three months and many studios had stored scripts in readiness for a long strike this time.

IMF, Turkey bargain on new standby credit

ANKARA (R) — Officials from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) last week began a second week of talks with the Turkish government on terms for a new standby borrowing agreement to replace one expiring next month, officials said.

Turkey signed an agreement with the IMF in April last year to receive 225 million Special Drawing Rights (at present one SDR equals \$0.95596) and analysts said they believed tough bargaining was going on over the renewal.

The fund delegation, headed by IMF Turkey desk chief Mr. Geoffrey Tyler, will hold talks with a wide range of officials dealing with the economy on 1984 performance and 1985 prospects.

Turkey's semi-official Anatolian News Agency lined areas on which the government was being pressed by the fund for information.

These included its failure to bring down domestic consumption, delayed price rises by

China boasts unprecedented growth

PEKING (R) — China Saturday reported an unprecedented high growth rate for 1984 as its economic reforms boosted prosperity but triggered new problems of inflation.

A State Statistical Bureau (SSB) spokesman told reporters that total economic output grew by 13 per cent and national income, which is closer to the western idea of Gross National Product (GNP), jumped by 12 per cent.

"We are confident that we can develop our economy with a stable and high growth rate," SSB Deputy Director Xu Gang said.

But he said long-standing problems of low energy growth, bad transport and misplaced investment remained.

Mr. Xu also reported that, despite a rise in living standards, some prices, especially those of food, had started rising rapidly this year.

The government announced

last October it would correct the country's distorted price system. It has since faced several problems in effecting a smooth readjustment, partly due to the complexity of the task, partly due to illegal speculation.

The 1984 retail price index rose 2.8 per cent but recorded a four per cent rise in the last quarter of the year and some items such as fresh fruit actually doubled in price, Mr. Xu said.

This went some way to offsetting rises in wages. Mr. Xu said per capita income of China's 800 million peasants rose 14.7 per cent to the equivalent of \$120 a year while urban dwellers earned \$217 each, a 15.5 per cent rise.

The government has the problem of trying to extricate itself from paying large farm subsidies and then pass real costs of production to city consumers without at the same time lowering their real wages.

But the subsidies had a continuing dramatic effect of encouraging farmers and the SSB said the 1984 grain harvest rose 5.1 per cent to a record 407.12 million tonnes.

Total agricultural and industrial output rose by 14.5 per cent to a record 1,062.7 billion yuan (\$380 billion) and total foreign trade soared to a new height of \$53.5 billion, Mr. Xu said.

A small trade deficit of \$1.3 billion was reported in 1984, the first for some years. But calculating the Chinese figures on comparable international trade accounting methods actually shows a small \$1 billion surplus.

Although energy distribution remained a problem and the overall growth rate in the sector was only about half of the total national growth, China produced a record 114.5 million tonnes of oil and 772 million tonnes of coal.

China also managed to keep a general balance between the light and heavy industry sectors, solving the past problem of over-investment in heavy industrial capacity.

Total industrial output rose 14 per cent while agricultural production value increased 14.5 per cent, both well over figures for the past few years of China's economic reform programme.

Chinese leaders have said that in next few years, growth may be held back a little while the government tackles the many remaining problems and tries to create a firm base for an economic boom in the 1990s.

UPI seeks agreement with creditors

NEW YORK (R) — United Press International (UPI) sought Friday to arrange meetings with creditors for approval of a plan designed to save the news agency by wiping out its multimillion dollar debts.

A UPI spokesman told Reuters that meetings with creditors would start this week, but declined to say where.

"These are not public meetings," he said. UPI is a privately-held company.

Asked about speculation that UPI might file for voluntary bankruptcy to protect it from creditors while a reorganisation plan

is put in effect, the spokesman said the new plan "totally eliminates the need."

Spokesmen for some of the main creditors contacted by Reuters said they had not been approached yet. Other creditors could not be reached for comment.

The plan to resolve the debt crisis was announced Thursday after the 78-year old agency's two owners, Tennessee entrepreneurs Mr. Douglas Ruhe and Mr. William Geissler, yielded control of UPI and the bulk of their 90 per cent stock.

The debt refinancing and management reorganisation plan was drawn up in intense negotiations through Wednesday night in Los Angeles following heavy pressure from the Foothill group, UPI's biggest creditor.

It put control of the news agency in the hands of a new management team headed by Mr. Luis Nogales, dismissed as UPI president in 1982 by Ruhe and Mr. Geissler in a dispute over refinancing the debt.

Mr. Ruhe, Mr. Nogales, employees' union president Mr. William Morrissey and UPI editor-in-chief Mr. Maxwell McCrohon

now comprise a four-member board of directors to run the agency temporarily.

Announcing the plan, UPI said if the creditors agreed to accept stock in lieu of cash, remaining equity would be divided equally among four parties: Foothill, Mr. Ruhe and Mr. Geissler, management and UPI employees.

Foothill, which is owed up to \$7 million from UPI, agreed to continue loaning money to the agency to cover day-to-day operations while creditors ponder the survival plan.

Dunlop agrees to BTR takeover bid

LONDON (R) — Dunlop, the struggling tyre and rubber products company, Friday agreed to join the empire of Britain's biggest holding company, BTR, following a tripling of BTR's earlier takeover offer.

The two companies said in a joint statement that they had reached agreement on BTR's new bid of about £101 million (\$108 million). The earlier offer, which Dunlop chairman Sir Michael Edwards opposed as grossly inadequate, was £33 million (\$35 million).

The new bid agreed by the two boards remains subject to shareholder approval. But Pegi Malaysia Berhad, a Malaysian firm which owns 26 per cent of Dunlop, said it intends to accept the increased terms.

Dunlop, hit by a slump in demand and for tyres, had previously been fighting off the BTR bid made on Jan. 18, and planned to relaunch itself through a huge refinancing agreement with its bankers. The tyre company said it now does not intend to proceed with this reconstruction.

In 1983, Dunlop was rescued from collapse by a group of more than 40 international banks but still has estimated debts of £435 million (\$465 million).

The price of Dunlop shares has

risen sharply in recent weeks — they closed at 50 pence (53 cents) Friday — since Dunlop's earlier offer of two BTR ordinary shares for every 59 Dunlop ordinary shares or 20 pence (21 cents) per Dunlop share.

The terms now are two BTR ordinary shares for every 21 Dunlop ordinary shares, or 63 pence (67 cents) cash per Dunlop share. Terms of the preference share offer remain unchanged.

BTR, whose worldwide interests include industrial rubber, engineering, manufacturing, service and energy industries, already owns 25 per cent of Dunlop's preference shares.

BTR chairman Sir Owen Green told a press conference Friday that the increased bid followed receipt of an updated picture of Dunlop's financial position and prospects.

Dunlop has pulled out of European tyre manufacturing to concentrate on other regions and products, primarily sports goods such as tennis racquets favoured by players like John McEnroe. It has pruned its workforce to about 27,000 worldwide.

Earlier last week Dunlop said it was in advanced negotiations to sell its U.S. tyre business for an undisclosed sum. Sir Green said BTR has yet to decide whether these plans will go ahead.

Norway affirms stand on oil production

CARACAS (R) — Norway is not in a position to reduce its 700,000 barrels per day oil output as sought by OPEC in a coordinated struggle to defend oil prices. Foreign Minister Sverre Stray said Friday.

"They want us to lower production but this is nearly impossible for Norway," he told a news conference during a two-day official visit to Venezuela.

Mr. Stray Thursday met President Jaime Lusinchi and Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti, who said afterwards that OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) needed greater cooperation from non-member oil

exporters in its efforts to stabilise the world market.

Mr. Stray said Norway could not lower production easily because of the complex technology involved in North Sea production and the long lag time in developing offshore oil.

"It is much easier to control onshore production and offshore production is a complicated and very costly method," Mr. Stray said. "Developing an offshore oil well normally takes 10 years with heavy investment."

Planning ahead for this period makes it virtually impossible to adjust if the market becomes a little less favourable, he added.

Mr. Stray said he saw Norway's production rising only slightly to 700,000 to 800,000 b/d in the next few years, with a decline from old fields such as Ekofisk being offset by the output from the new \$1.2 billion Statfjord platform.

He said Norway wanted to avoid being a market leader in setting prices and that the price cut it made last autumn, which helped to precipitate a crisis in OPEC, had been inevitable.

"We are interested in stabilising prices at higher levels," he said, hoping that both Norway and Britain had to cope with high North Sea production costs.

Mr. Stray said that if the Norwegian state oil company Statoil had not cut prices last year, it would have lost customers to Britain and would have had to sell on the spot market.

He said his visit to Venezuela was designed to give Norway's support to the efforts of the Conadara Group — Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama — to bring peace to Central America.

"We realise that part of the problem is socio-economic, and Norway, along with other European nations, wants to help, although what we can do in the political and economic fields is limited," he said.

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YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 10, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Some poor judgment or adverse condition in effect early this morning requires much thought and attention to handle wisely. Don't take an arbitrary position but delve into all factors involved.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Your hunches are not good in the morning, so be sure to use mature judgment and double-check everything you do.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) A partner may not understand your ideas in the morning, but if you are patient will later agree with you and all goes well.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) In the morning, your partners may disagree violently with a new contact, so do not mix in. Later be with a wise pal.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be loyal to the one you love and come to a better understanding. Then study ways to handle your obligations wisely.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Don't enter into any argument with anger between a close tie and newcomer and it will soon right itself.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't permit some task to keep you from gaining the data you need at a new site and then tonight you can handle some home duty.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Some new investment should not require spending too much money in the morning. Do something fun with an associate.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Don't argue with a family tie in the morning, and then you can get into interesting activities with your family.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't permit a private worry to keep you from handling outside interests in the morning.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) A friend may try to trick you out of something valuable, so don't get taken in. Teach to be more self-reliant later.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Show that you live the philosophy that you profess and be an A-1 citizen, thus gaining good will of others easily.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You may find it hard to acquire the information needed in the morning, but later you stumble upon it quite easily.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will love to investigate, and can get good results because of the natural magnetism in this nature and others will respond quickly to questions asked. Give as much education as you can and permit to participate in sports and keep the figure trim. There can be disappointments in early years.

THE Daily Crossword by Betty Jo Panches

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Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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U.S. team arrives in Geneva for arms talks

U.S. to seek 'fair, equitable' nuclear accord with Soviets

GENEVA (Agencies) — President Reagan's arms control team arrived Saturday for fresh talks with the Soviet Union on nuclear and space-based weapons.

Chief negotiator Max Kampelman told reporters at the airport that the differences between the United States and the Soviet Union were "profound" but no effort would be spared in seeking a fair and equitable agreement.

"It would be folly to expect them to be bridged overnight but at least we can hope our overall objectives are the same," he said.

The objective should be the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by all states, he said.

Mr. Kampelman was accompanied by John Tower, the U.S. negotiator for long-range nuclear armed missiles, and Maynard Glitman, the negotiator for

intermediate range nuclear missiles.

The negotiations, which are resuming after a 15-month break, will also cover President Reagan's plans to spend \$26 billion on researching a space-based missile defense system.

The Soviet negotiating team is due to arrive Sunday.

Mr. Reagan's National Security Adviser and Arms Control Coordinator Robert McFarlane told reporters Friday the president had emphasized flexibility as the two sides resumed nuclear arms negotiations after a 15-month hiatus.

In the talks, he said, the United States was prepared to consider

various approaches that would eventually result in the zero ceilings in medium range missiles that the United States has sought.

In the START talks the United States was willing to meet the Soviets halfway, Mr. McFarlane said.

But he has acknowledged previously that the U.S. side plans to conduct a "seminar" in Geneva on the Star Wars plan, seeking to explain how both superpowers might eventually make a transition from nuclear retaliation to missile defence.

It is not a bargaining chip in the negotiations, officials say.

In his meeting with the negotiators Friday, Mr. Reagan also was said by Mr. McFarlane to have expressed concern over "worrisome trends" in the U.S.-Soviet strategic balance which he said now was "out of kilter."

Meanwhile the Reagan administration, countering critics who say the controversial MX missile would be wiped out by a Soviet nuclear strike, told Congress on Friday that missile silos have a better chance than previously believed of withstanding attack.

"It is more survivable than we thought it was," General Benmie Davis, chief of the Strategic Air Command, told the Senate Appropriations Defence Subcommittee.

But William Colby, former director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), appeared at a news conference along with a fellow MX opponent, Democratic Congressman Les Aucoin, who said the missile has become the vulnerable part of the American strategic defence system.

Gandhi seeks political, economic change in India

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi says India requires evolutionary economic and political change and has stressed the need to avoid harming the interests of the country's Sikh community.

In an interview with the magazine Sunday, Mr. Gandhi said people expected his government to restore key values in society.

"I think what we have to look at is where people's expectations have been raised," he was quoted as saying. "Does everybody think we are going to make a Japan out of India in five years? We are not — it can't be done."

"But if the expectation is to restore certain principle, certain cleanliness to clean up the corruption, I think we can do it," Mr. Gandhi said.

Mr. Gandhi, known as "Mr. Clean" for his fresh approach to politics, became prime minister after Sikh bodyguards assassinated his mother Indira four months ago.

"We need first to reorientate the system. The system today is antiquated... We have to see today's system for what it is, and try and turn (it) into what we want it to be without breaking or shattering it," Mr. Gandhi told the magazine.

In state polls last week, Mr. Gandhi's Congress (I) Party won an impressive mandate in northern and central India, but failed to make inroads into tough opposition in the south.

He has said his government would give priority to solving the Punjab crisis.

Mr. Gandhi told Sunday that an inquiry into all violence linked with the Punjab crisis was possible, but he ruled out a probe into anti-Sikh riots triggered by his mother's murder.

About 2,700 people, mainly Sikhs, were killed in unrest after her killing on Oct. 31.

"I really think it (an inquiry into the riots) would do more damage to the Sikhs. It would do more damage to the country by specifically opening this whole thing up again," he said.

Meanwhile, six people have been killed in the curfew-bound south Indian city of Hyderabad in violence sparked by polling disputes.

The Press Trust of India (PTI) said two people died in the city

Saturday — a man stabbed to death when the curfew was relaxed and another who died of stab wounds received Friday.

The curfew was clamped on the old part of the city Friday after clashes in which four people were killed and 10 injured.

The street battles erupted between supporters of two rival political parties after reports that a fresh poll had been ordered in their constituency following local elections.

PTI quoted an election official, as saying votes in the constituency were being checked after most of polling stations reported an unusually high turnout.

Hyderabad is the capital of Andhra Pradesh, one of 11 states that held state assembly elections last Saturday and Tuesday.

About 50 people died in sporadic violence during the polls. Trouble in Hyderabad erupted in a constituency where the two main contestants were the ruling Hindu Bharatiya Janata Party and the Majlis Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen, a Muslim fundamentalist party.

The city, whose population of three million is almost equally split between Hindus and Muslims, has a history of communal tension.

At least 45 people died in three weeks of sectarian clashes last September.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N.T. Rama Rao, sworn in Saturday after his regional party won the elections, said Friday he would deal with rioters with an iron hand.

Mr. Rama Rao's Telugu Desam Party was one of the few opposition parties to beat Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party in the assembly polls. Mr. Gandhi won in eight states.

India to try Sikhs

The trial of 379 Sikh extremist suspects will begin on March 16 in a jail in India's northern Rajasthan state, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported Saturday.

PTI said the suspects, charged with involvement in a Sikh separatist guerrilla campaign in neighbouring Punjab, would be tried in camera by a special court in Jodhpur City's jail.

NATO tables proposal at Stockholm conference

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The United States and its allies have presented at the 35-nation Stockholm security conference a "ready-to-sign" proposal on measures intended to lessen the risk of war in Europe.

"This is an overall document, ready-to-sign and good for real world negotiations," United States chief delegate James W. Goody told a news conference.

The conference on confidence and security-building measures and disarmament in Europe involves the United States, Canada, the Soviet Union and all European countries except Albania. It began 14 months ago with reducing the risk of military confrontation in Europe as its chief goal.

Friday's initiative, by the 16 countries that are members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), was presented in plenary session and contained

an "amplified" compilation of six working documents that had earlier this year been introduced in working groups.

The document included detailed proposals on such items as exchanging military information between East and West, advance notification of each others' military exercises, sending observers to each others' military activities and verifying each others' compliance with the measures.

The substance of the proposal met with no initial Soviet Bloc comment, said Danish head of delegation Skjold G. Mellbin, who introduced the document on behalf of the NATO-allies.

Mr. Skjold stressed that the proposal was not a "take-it-or-leave-it" offer. "It is a basis for negotiations," he said. Earlier, the Soviets had termed the idea of freer exchange of military information as akin to "legalised espionage."

India finalising gas disaster lawsuit

NEW DELHI (R) — The postponement by a New York court of a pre-trial hearing into the Bhopal gas disaster has given the Indian government valuable time to prepare its lawsuit on behalf of all the victims, authoritative sources said Saturday.

Minister of State for Law H.R. Bhargava told Reuters Friday that his government would file a lawsuit on behalf of all victims of the gas leak that killed at least 2,500 people in December.

The hearing had been scheduled for Tuesday before U.S. district court Judge John Keenan. But a court spokesman in New York later said that Judge Keenan had decided to postpone the hearing until April 16.

Asked to comment on the postponement, authoritative sources in Delhi told Reuters the Indian government was pleased by the decision.

"It will give us more time to put together our case," the sources said.

The leak of deadly methyl isocyanate gas from a pesticide factory owned by the Indian offshoot of the U.S. Union Carbide Corporation also injured 125,000 people.

Several U.S. lawyers have already filed lawsuits seeking billions of dollars in compensation from Union Carbide.

Greek Socialists call for new president

ATHENS (R) — Greece's ruling Socialist Party, in a surprise move that could lead the country to early elections, Saturday rejected President Constantine Karamanlis as next head of state.

Parliament is due to elect a new president on March 15.

Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu suggested an alternative to Mr. Karamanlis in a speech to the party's central committee, its highest organ, which was accepted unanimously.

Political commentators had expected that Mr. Karamanlis, a former conservative prime minister, would be re-elected easily with the government's support.

Mr. Papandreu said the party's choice for president was Supreme Court Judge Christos Sartzetakis.

Mr. Papandreu also said he would propose constitutional changes to limit the power of the president.

When he was in opposition, the Socialist leader strongly opposed the 1975 constitution, claiming it gave the president excessive powers.

Since his election victory in 1981, Mr. Papandreu has appeared content to work within the 1975 framework.

Although he and Mr. Karamanlis were once bitter political opponents, his relations with the president have been good since he became prime minister and he has praised Mr. Karamanlis' work as head of state.

The government must call general elections at the end of its four-year term in October this year. Saturday's move made it seem almost certain that elections will come much sooner.

Mr. Sartzetakis headed an inquiry into the murder of a left-wing deputy in the early 1960s, an incident that precipitated the resignation of Mr. Karamanlis who at that time was prime minister.

At least 180 votes — three fifths — are required in the 300-seat parliament to elect a new president.

Mr. Papandreu's party, Pasok, commands 165 seats and with 12 Communists who also oppose Mr. Karamanlis would still be three seats short of the required majority.

New Democracy, the conservative opposition party which backs Mr. Karamanlis, has 112 seats.

The role of 11 independent deputies could be decisive in determining whether the present parliament can elect Mr. Sartzetakis, or whether the country will go into general elections by the end of April on the sole issue of who is next president.

Deng warns against China turning Capitalist

PEKING (R) — Chinese leader Deng Xiaoping said in a speech published Saturday his aim was to develop Socialism, not to turn China into a free enterprise, Capitalist economy.

If his reforms resulted a new Capitalist class emerging in China then they will have failed, he told a conference.

"The aim of Socialism is to allow all the people to become rich together, not to produce two classes," the 80-year-old leader was quoted as saying in a front-page report in the Communist Party newspaper, the People's Daily.

If our policy results in two classes then we have failed. If it produces a new Capitalist class, then we have really taken to evil ways."

Addressing a group of scientists and officials, Mr. Deng said some

people hoped that China was turning Capitalist and others feared that it would.

While the fear that China could turn to Capitalism was not completely unfounded, he said both groups should be answered with facts, not just empty words.

The public sector in China would always be the predominant force within the Socialist economy and the objective of Socialism was common prosperity for all, he said.

China would stick firmly to these principles while allowing some private enterprises, joint ventures with overseas companies and foreign investment.

In a reference to rising crime and corruption, Mr. Deng said some evil winds were blowing through China. "We must remind



SECURITY IN PUNJAB: Armed police patrol by jeep and on foot as Sikh militants hold an anti-government meeting at a historic Sikh shrine in Punjab's Anandpur Sahib town (AP wirephoto)

Thais, Vietnamese fight artillery duels

SURIN, Thailand (R) — Artillery duels broke out Saturday between Vietnamese and Thai forces along the Thai-Kampuchea border as Hanoi's forces battled on for a fifth day in their attempt to take a key guerrilla base in Kampuchea.

Thai military officers said sporadic artillery explosions could be heard on both sides of the border.

Small-arms gunfire was also reported in Thai territory and near Green Hill, the Kampuchean mountain stronghold of guerrilla leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk. No other details were available.

The base, also known as Tatum, came under renewed attack Friday night but the defenders said they drove the Vietnamese back with heavy casualties.

Tatum is the only major guerrilla base still intact since Hanoi's forces began their dry-season offensive last November.

Thai Air Force jets were sighted Saturday circling over the trouble areas but made no strafing runs.

Thousands of Thai villagers evacuated Friday said they hoped to be able to go back to their homes soon.

Most of the refugees are women, children and the elderly evacuated to school compounds well outside Vietnamese artillery

range.

Men have remained in the villages to guard possessions and act as militia.

As most try to pick up the threads of a normal life, some watch soldiers interrogate a suspected fifth-fifth-columnist.

The suspect, a 16-year-old youth, is considered the village idiot but Thai officers think he is not as harmless as he looks.

They said he could speak Khmer, Thai and Vietnamese and was caught in an area which came under Vietnamese attack last Tuesday.

But his answers to most questions are meaningless. His mother is no help. She drifts in and out of the crowd watching the interrogation with a vacant look on her face.

"They're all crazy," one villager shouts. The others giggle. War has brought them a diversion.

Thai military officers said operations were continuing to push back Vietnamese troops who intruded into Thailand last Tuesday to take Sihanouk's base from the rear.

About 1,000 Hanoi's troops were initially involved in the intrusion but it is not known how many still remain in Thailand.

China, Vietnam clash

Meanwhile China and Vietnam Saturday reported an upsurge of fighting along their tense border, with Hanoi asserting its forces crushed a Chinese attack.

But Peking said Chinese troops hit back Friday at Vietnamese forces, "clearing all Vietnamese invaders and their advancing strongholds."

The Vietnamese News Agency VNA said Chinese gunners fired more than 20,000 heavy artillery shells across the border into Vietnam's Ha Tuyen province and Chinese troops attacked along one section of the rugged frontier.

"The local Vietnamese Armed Forces and people promptly retaliated, crushing the enemy's land-grabbing attacks and causing heavy losses," VNA said.

A statement carried on the frontpage of China's Communist Party newspaper, the People's Daily, said Chinese forces responded after Vietnamese troops fired thousands of shells into frontier districts of Yunnan province over the past 10 days.

The official New China News Agency (NCNA) said enemy gunners had opened fire on 70 occasions "causing great loss of life and property to local residents."

French foreign minister arrives in Moscow today

MOSCOW (R) — French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas arrived in Moscow Sunday for talks with Andrei Gromyko expected to dwell on East-West tensions, only two days before Moscow and Washington start new arms talks in Geneva.

Although the French minister's visit is a long-planned follow-up to that of his predecessor Claude Cheysson in 1983, the imminence of the Geneva talks is seen as inevitably overshadowing discussion of bilateral relations.

Moscow has made clear it would like a resumption of regular franco-Soviet summits, discontinued by Socialist President Francois Mitterrand when he succeeded Valery Giscard d'Estaing, because of the Soviet role in Poland and Afghanistan.

Mr. Mitterrand's 1984 visit to Moscow was considered a success by both sides, despite the French president's outspoken reference to dissident Andrei Sakharov at a Kremlin banquet.

The resumption of regular summits would have appeared a reality but for the fact that ailing Soviet President Konstantin Chernenko is now unlikely to be well enough to visit Paris this year, as previously agreed.

Western diplomats in Moscow say that Mr. Dumas, besides his talks with the Soviet foreign minister, would also normally be expected to have an audience with Mr. Chernenko.

Whether or not the Soviet leader makes this rendezvous will be widely interpreted as a further indication of his state of health. He has twice appeared briefly on television in recent weeks but in both cases looking ill.

Mr. Chernenko did not turn up for a traditional Women's Day Rally on Thursday.

Mr. Dumas will also be expected to discuss measures to improve Franco-Soviet trade which has settled into the doldrums, especially following the decision by French car-makers Renault to back out of a cooperation deal with Moscow.

Prosecutors in the trial of 26 people charged in connection with the murder of Philippine opposition leader Benigno Aquino will call 15 witnesses next week, court sources said Saturday.

They said two of the 15 lined up to testify on Monday were at Manila Airport when Sen. Aquino was shot in August 1983. Most of the others were stenographers and typists of a commission which investigated the murder.

"The prosecutors are apparently biding for time until their so-called vital witnesses are found," one source said.

The trial was adjourned until Monday after prosecutors failed to present witnesses on two successive days last week.

Chief prosecutor Manuel Herrera told the court the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) could not locate four witnesses described as vital.

Police said the witnesses, three private security guards and a cargo loader who testified before the official inquiry that Sen. Aquino was on the aircraft steps when they heard the first shot, had been eluding them.

Their evidence challenged the military version that Sen. Aquino was shot on the tarmac by Rolando Galman, described by the

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U.K.'s first 'frozen embryo' baby born

MANCHESTER, England (R) — Britain's first "frozen embryo" baby has been born to a couple who had tried for eight years to have a child, doctors said Saturday. They said Gordon Martin Jackson, who weighed in at 2.8 kilograms in St. Mary's hospital here Friday night, was only the second baby born anywhere in the world by the deep-freeze method. "He is a perfect baby, an absolutely lovely little chap," father Tony Jackson was quoted as saying. The embryo, created by fertilising an egg from 34-year-old wife Janet with her husband's sperm, was kept in cold storage for nearly two months while a research team monitored three other embryos implanted in her womb. When she lost all three, the team — headed by Patrick Sefton and Robert Edwards, British pioneers in test tube baby techniques — successfully implanted the embryo that had remained deep-frozen in liquid nitrogen. Doctors said they decided to induce the birth Friday and the baby was delivered by forceps.

China executes 4 for murder, rape

PEKING (R) — Four people have been executed in Shanghai after being convicted of murder, rape or violent hotheadism. Shanghai's Liberation Daily reported. It said murderers Zhou Guangquan and Guan Jinseng, rapist Cao Xikang and hoodlum Ding Guoxiang were executed on Thursday after an open air trial at Shanghai's sports stadium. The paper said Cao raped four women and killed one of them, while Ding killed a man with a knife after getting into a fight over gambling. Another man who was said to have molested young girls was given a death sentence, suspended for two years. Executions in China are normally by a bullet through the back of the head.

Kidnapper killed by truck while collecting ransom

KOBE, Japan (R) — The kidnapper of a six-year-old boy was crossing a road to collect a ransom of 50 million yen (\$190,000) when he was accidentally hit and killed by a truck, police said Saturday. Police later found the boy, who belongs to a wealthy family, safe and well. They said the kidnapper, identified as Sadami Yasuda, 24, was told the money had been left at a bus stop on the other side of the road by the family of his victim, Masanori Watanabe. Yasuda snatched the boy from the Watanabe home earlier Friday.

Actor Dan Haggerty sold cocaine

LOS ANGELES (R) — Actor Dan Haggerty, who played a woodsman who mixed with bears in the television series "Grizzly Adams," was found guilty of selling cocaine to undercover police officers. Haggerty, 42, was found not guilty on a second count of selling cocaine but could still be sentenced to up to four years in prison.

D.H. Lawrence wins new recognition

LONDON (R) — The novelist D.H. Lawrence, who shocked his generation by writing about sex, has won a place alongside the "greats" of English literature in poet's corner in London's Westminster Abbey. The D.H. Lawrence Society in Nottingham, the town in central England near which the writer has been 100 years ago, has said that after three years of lobbying it had been given permission to put up a memorial plaque in the Abbey. Lawrence, who died in 1930, will be commemorated alongside such literary giants as William Shakespeare, William Wordsworth, Rudyard Kipling, Charles Dickens and Dylan Thomas. Although he wrote poems, Lawrence is best remembered as a novelist with such works as Lady Chatterley's Lover, the story of an affair between a titled lady and her gamekeeper. Women In Love and Sons And Lovers. Mrs. Enid Goodband, curator of the Lawrence Museum in the writer's birthplace Eastwood, told reporters that the world had at last recognised him. "He died heartbroken in 1930 because the world would not accept his ideas and writing," she said. The society plans to unveil the plaque later this year.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
1984 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

A MATTER OF PERCENTAGES

Both vulnerable, North deals.

NORTH
♠ 963
♥ A Q 3
♦ A 7 6 2
♣ A 8 5

WEST
♠ A 8 2
♥ 9 4
♦ K 8 5 4
♣ Q 4 3 2

EAST
♠ K J 10 7 4
♥ 8 5
♦ Q 8
♣ J 10 8 7

SOUTH
♠ Q 5
♥ K J 10 7 6 2
♦ J 10 3
♣ K 6

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
2 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ace of ♠.

If you guess right far more often than not, don't let anything we write change your methods. But if you are like the rest of us and have trouble guessing right even half the time, you might consider going with the odds.

With his square shape, North might have rebid one no trump at his second turn, rather than raise hearts. When he elected to support his